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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

ON THE

LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF

JOHN HENRY GEAR

JANUARY 19–26, 1901

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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

ON THE

LIFE AND CHARACTER

OF

JOHN HENRY GEAR

(Late a Senator from Iowa),

DELIVERED IN THE

SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

FIFTY-SIXTH CONGRESS
SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON:
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Death of Hon. John Henry Gear.

Proceedings in the Senate.

December 3, 1900.

PRAYER.

Rev. W. H. Milburn, D. D., Chaplain to the Senate, offered the following prayer:

O Eternal God, rejoicing with gratitude to Thee that so many members of this body are in their places, strong in health and resolve for the responsible and onerous duties of their places, yet as the psalm of our thanksgiving rises, the heavy hand of sorrow is laid upon us as we remember the irreparable loss which this body and the country at large has sustained in the departure from earth of some of our notable members.

We recall the venerable figure of a late member of the Senate, who, looking back upon nearly fifty years of public service, had ingratiated himself into the regard, affection, and veneration of his brethren and of a large portion of the people of the country.

We recall the form and presence of the junior Senator from Iowa, taken from us and leaving a gap in his State, as well as in this body.

And now we stand with unspeakable grief by the new-made grave in the capital of Minnesota, which within the last two days has received all that was mortal of the brilliant, attractive, and serviceable senior Senator from that State. By his genius, his labor, his devotion to the interests not only of his own State but of the whole country, and by his attractive and winsome qualities he drew the love and fixed regard of his colleagues. O Lord, the sense of our sorrow and loss is unspeakable.

Let Thy consolation come to the members of these families; let it come to the venerable father and mother as well as the wife of the Minnesota Senator.

Grant, O Lord, that the sense of our mortality may rest with becoming gravity upon the hearts and consciences of all here, and may we gird up our loins and walk reverently and humbly before Thee. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Mr. ALLISON. Mr. President, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that I announce to the Senate the death of my late colleague, Hon. JOHN HENRY GEAR, which occurred in this city on the 14th day of July last. At some future time, of which I shall give due notice, I desire to afford the Senate an opportunity of paying tribute to the memory of Senator GEAR and his long and distinguished services to his State and his country. At this time I beg leave to offer the resolutions which I send to the desk, and for which I ask immediate consideration.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The resolutions submitted by the Senator from Iowa will be read.

The Secretary read the resolutions, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with deep regret and profound sorrow of the death of the Hon. JOHN HENRY GEAR, late a Senator from the State of Iowa.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate a copy of these resolutions to the House of Representatives.

The resolutions were considered by unanimous consent and unanimously agreed to.

Mr. ALLISON. Mr. President, I offer an additional resolution, which I ask to have read and considered at this time.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The resolution submitted by the Senator from Iowa will be read.

The Secretary read the resolution, as follows:

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, Hon. JOHN HENRY GEAR and Hon. Cushman Kellogg Davis, the Senate do now adjourn.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to; and (at 3 o'clock and 46 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, Tuesday, December 4, 1900, at 12 o'clock meridian.

DECEMBER 4, 1900.

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. W. J. Browning, its Chief Clerk, transmitted to the Senate resolutions on the death of Hon. Cushman K. Davis, late a Senator from the State of Minnesota; Hon. JOHN H. GEAR, late a Senator from the State of Iowa; Hon. John H. Hoffecker, late a Representative from the State of Delaware, and Hon. William D. Daly, late a Representative from the State of New Jersey.

JANUARY 10, 1901.

Mr. ALLISON. Mr. President, I desire to give notice that on Saturday, the 19th of January, after the routine morning business, I shall submit resolutions commemorative of the life and services of the Hon. JOHN HENRY GEAR, late a Senator from the State of Iowa.

JANUARY 19, 1901.

Mr. ALLISON. Mr. President, I submit the resolutions which I send to the desk, and ask that they may be read.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The resolutions will be read.

The Secretary read the resolutions, as follows:

Resolved, That it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the Senate hears the announcement of the death of Hon. JOHN HENRY GEAR, late a Senator from the State of Iowa.

Resolved, That the Senate extends to his family and to the people of the State of Iowa sincere condolence in their bereavement.

Resolved, That, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, the business of the Senate be now suspended to enable his associates to pay fitting tribute to his high character and distinguished services.

Resolved, That the Secretary transmit to the family of the deceased and to the governor of the State of Iowa a copy of these resolutions, with the action of the Senate thereon.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives.

Resolved, That, as an additional mark of respect, at the conclusion of these exercises the Senate do adjourn.

Address of Mr. Allison, of Iowa.

Mr. President: The late John Henry Gear, whose life and services we now commemorate, was first elected to the Senate by the general assembly of Iowa on the 23d of January, 1894, and took his seat March 4, 1895. He died in this city at 4 o'clock on the morning of July 14, 1900, in his seventy-sixth year.

The ancestors of Senator Gear came from England to Connecticut in 1647, and settled near what was afterwards known as Middletown three years before that town was founded and eleven years after the first settlement of that colony from Massachusetts. They were of that class of sturdy, God-fearing people who laid so well the foundations of this Republic, and there on the banks of the Connecticut they and their posterity resided, sharing in the privations, difficulties, and dangers of that colony during the intervening period, alternately building their log cabins, clearing their fields, planting and harvesting their crops, and waging warfare with the native tribes until after the close of the war of the Revolution, when Senator Gear's grandfather, Hezekiah Gear, after his marriage with Sarah Gilbert, moved to the neighborhood of Pittsfield, Mass., where Ezekiel Gilbert Gear, father of Senator Gear, was born in 1791. He was educated for the ministry, and was ordained as a clergyman of the Church of England by the Right Rev. Bishop Hobart, of New York, in 1815. A year later he was sent as a missionary to the Indian tribes in western New York, and there, on April 7, 1825, his son, John Henry Gear, was born in what is now Ithaca, amidst the rigorous conditions surrounding life

in a frontier village, which at that time was nothing more than an Indian trading post.

The boy was born in the wilderness, surrounded by primeval forests, where the Onondaga chief of the Five Nations still dwelt—our enemies in the war of the Revolution, though then at peace with us. The dwellings were log cabins, and the mothers were in constant fear of wild animals, and wild Indians as well. Having lost his mother, he was taken, at 2 years of age, to Pittsfield, Mass., where he was nurtured by his grandmother until after his father's second marriage.

In 1831 he returned to his father, and removed with him to the West five years later. The missionary and his little family went to Galena, Ill. I do not know how this journey was made, but have no doubt they sailed down the Ohio to its junction with the Mississippi, and then followed that mighty river upward to Galena, then a mining town or village with a small population. The Black Hawk war of 1832 had resulted, two years before, in the purchase by treaty of all the lands on the east bank of the Mississippi, and there was a belief that the country would attract to it emigrants from the East. Chicago was then a struggling village without even a charter for a municipal organization, and contained less than 2,000 souls, and between it and Galena was a wilderness of prairie.

Two years later the father was appointed a chaplain in the United States Army and assigned to Fort Snelling, a frontier military post in what is now the State of Minnesota, a few miles below the Falls of St. Anthony, so named by La Salle, but then not even a village. This whole region was then a wilderness, inhabited only by wild tribes, and the solitude of nature was disturbed only by the great falls of the Mississippi, known as St. Anthony, and the smaller one known as

Minnehaha. It was amid these scenes and surroundings that the boy grew up, enduring the hardships and privations of the frontier, and without means of education other than those provided by an educated and pious father, which I have no doubt was of great value to him in after years. These surroundings and this teaching doubtless instilled into his mind that sturdy independence and push and integrity of dealing and character which followed him through life. It was the heritage of a poor man's son:

> Stout muscles and a sinewy heart,
> A hardy frame and a hardier spirit;
> King of his two hands, he does his part
> In every useful toil and art.

The father remained a chaplain at Fort Snelling until 1868, esteemed and revered by the soldiers at the post and by all with whom he came in contact. Retiring in that year, he removed to Minneapolis, a flourishing city, as was also St. Paul, a few miles below—both unknown when he entered upon his missionary work in 1838. He died in 1873, at the age of 82 years, respected and honored by all who knew him.

In the fall of 1843 young GEAR, at the age of 19, left his father's family and made his way down the Mississippi, arriving on the 25th of September at Burlington, Iowa, where his maternal aunt then resided, she being the wife of Hon. Charles Mason, chief justice of the Territory of Iowa, a distinguished lawyer and well known by the older lawyers of this city as Commissioner of Patents for several years.

Here began the successful career afterwards achieved by him as citizen and public servant. He promptly went to work on a farm near the village, but soon after found employment in the store of Bridgeman Brothers, in Burlington, at a compensation of $50 per year and board. In those days the young man could

not hope for an immediate increase of salary. After working with this firm for about a year he removed to Keosauqua—an Iowa village 50 miles distant—with the younger Bridgeman, who established a store there, and his wages were increased to $100 per year and board. In the spring of 1845 he returned to Burlington and entered, in a subordinate capacity, the employ of W. F. Coolbaugh, then a leading merchant of that town. He worked so faithfully and intelligently that at the end of five years he was taken into the business, and the firm was changed to W. F. Coolbaugh & Co. At the end of another five years he became sole proprietor of the business, Mr. Coolbaugh retiring to enter the banking business, in which he achieved great success. The business was continued successfully by Mr. GEAR, with various associates, until September, 1879, when he retired from active business as a merchant.

He was married in 1852 to Miss Harriet S. Foote, youngest daughter of Justus L. and Harriet Foote, of Middlebury, Vt., where Mrs. Gear was born. They had four children, of whom two survive, namely, Margaret, wife of J. W. Blythe, a successful attorney of Burlington, and Ruth, wife of Horace S. Rand, a successful business man of Burlington. Mrs. Gear is a woman of extraordinary qualities and ability, and still survives her husband. During the period of their married life she was an untiring and able helpmate of her husband and greatly aided him in all his work and ambitions, finding her reward in the honors which from time to time came to him. The domestic life of Senator and Mrs. GEAR was ideal, and their devotion to each other gave their home life a charm which delighted their friends everywhere.

He always took an active interest in the political affairs of the period, first as a Whig and afterwards as a Republican. He held no office, except that of alderman from one of the

wards of the city, until 1863, when he was elected mayor of Burlington, in which capacity he rendered great service to the Union soldiers going to and coming from the front, Burlington being a rendezvous. He was nominated by the Republicans in 1868 for representative in the Iowa general assembly, but declined the nomination; but in 1871, being again nominated, he accepted and was elected a member of the Fourteenth general assembly, although the county in which he lived was Democratic. In 1873 he was renominated and elected to the Fifteenth general assembly. When this legislature met he was selected as the Republican candidate for speaker of the house and was elected on the one hundred and forty-fourth ballot after a deadlock of two weeks, a situation brought about by the fact that neither the Republican nor the Democratic party had a majority of the members.

During this term as speaker he demonstrated his remarkable tact and ability to satisfactorily control a difficult situation, and the spirit of turbulence manifested at the opening of the session gradually changed to one of general commendation because of his fairness and impartiality in the administration of the office. The qualities then displayed resulted in his reelection as speaker in the succeeding general assembly, and I believe he is the only man but one who has held this office in Iowa twice in succession.

At the end of his four years as speaker his integrity and ability were so fully recognized throughout the State that in 1877 he was nominated as the Republican candidate for governor and was elected. He was renominated by acclamation in 1879 and again elected. When he entered the office of governor, the supervision of the various charitable and benevolent institutions of the State was within the special care of the governor, and during his service he gave personal and

constant attention to all the details of the office, including this supervision, and introduced many reforms in the administration of those institutions. This personal supervision led him strongly to recommend in his messages the creation of a permanent board of control, which should have special control of all educational, charitable, and penal institutions of the State. The importance of this was recognized, but not adopted until a few years ago, since which time it has proved successful not only in Iowa, but in other States.

Although Iowa has had the good fortune to have many men of eminence as governors of the State, it will always be said of Mr. GEAR that he was one of the best. So strong was he in the affections of the people of the State at that time that many of his friends presented him for United States Senator in 1881, but withdrew his name, and the late Senator Wilson was elected. Upon retiring from the office of governor in January, 1882, he was occupied for the next four years with his private affairs.

The Congressional district in which he resided was a closely contested one between the two political parties, and it was believed by the Republicans that Mr. GEAR'S nomination would insure the success of the party in the district. Therefore when the convention met in 1886 he was nominated by acclamation and elected to the Fiftieth Congress. Two years later he was renominated and again elected.

During his second term, as a member of the Committee on Ways and Means, he took an active part in the preparation of the McKinley tariff bill, being one of those especially assigned by Chairman McKinley to the preparation of that portion of the bill which levied duties upon agricultural products. He had given much attention to the subject of the production of beet sugar, and believed it could be produced in our own

country as cheaply as elsewhere if the industry were fairly started. As the best means of accomplishing this end he favored, in lieu of an import duty, a domestic bounty on sugar production, not only from sugar cane, but from beets as well, and he was largely instrumental in securing the bounty provision in the act of 1890.

In 1890 he was again nominated by acclamation, but was defeated by a small majority, sharing the fate of many of his Republican associates in the House who lived in closely contested districts. He was again nominated in 1892 and was elected. After his election, in November, he was appointed by President Harrison Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and served in that capacity until the beginning of the Fifty-third Congress, to which he had been elected a member.

He became an active candidate for the Senate in the summer of 1893, preceding the election of the general assembly in the fall of that year. Other prominent men in Iowa were also candidates, but when the legislature met he was selected as the caucus candidate of the Republican party and elected for the six-year term beginning March 4, 1895, serving in the House until the commencement of his term in the Senate. He was reelected to the Senate in January, 1900, for the six-year term beginning March 4 next.

His service in the Senate was relatively brief. Though he did not often participate in the debates of the Senate, he was active and useful in its work, and gave intelligent examination to all matters assigned to him. His most conspicuous service was as chairman of the Committee on Pacific Railroads, which had charge of the readjustment and settlement of the Government debt against those railroads. During this service a final settlement was made with the leading subsidized roads, whereby the Government received in full the amount loaned

to them by the legislation of 1862–1864, with interest to the date of settlement,

Senator GEAR was a delegate at large to the national convention held at Minneapolis in 1892, which nominated President Harrison, and also in the convention of 1896, which nominated President McKinley.

A little more than two years before his death Senator GEAR was seized with a severe malady which confined him to his home for two months. From this attack he never fully recovered, and it finally resulted in his death, in this city, on the 14th of July last. Though it was known in Iowa that he was infirm health, yet he did not know, nor did his friends believe, that his condition was so critical, and so his death came to his family and friends and to the people of Iowa as a great shock. His death was deplored by the people of the State generally. In recognition of his long and valuable public service to the State, the governor issued a public proclamation reciting such service and closing the public offices on the day of the funeral; and leading citizens from all parts of the State, the governor and State officers, and his associates from Iowa in Congress attended the obsequies, as did practically all the people of Burlington, the schools and business houses of the city being closed during the services.

Senator GEAR filled a large place in the history of Iowa for more than half a century, first as a prominent and successful business man in one of its most prosperous cities, enlarging his business and extending his acquaintance into a constantly widening field, holding the friends already made and making new ones year by year. He possessed a remarkable memory for names and faces, events and incidents, and thereby had the quality which enabled him on all occasions to summon to his support an army of friends. And thus it was at the time of

his death and for many years before. He probably had more personal friends and followers than any man in the State during the generation of his political life. These friendships were not found alone in the political party with which he affiliated, but extended to those of opposing political opinions as well.

He had a strong as well as a pleasing personality. His kind and genial disposition and manner made him many friends and firmly attached them to him when made. In all matters of large or small importance he was always ready to aid those who sought his help. This characteristic made all with whom he came in contact feel that they could approach him at any time for any proper service. This valuable trait made him strong with all classes of people in Iowa with whom he came in contact as its chief executive, and after he entered the public service at Washington made him a favorite with all Iowans who had business needing attention.

Through his entire term of public service, dating from his election as mayor of Burlington in the spring of 1863 until his death in 1900—nearly forty years in which he had at different times held offices of varied distinction and trust—Mr. GEAR showed himself worthy of the highest tribute of public confidence and praise. The sterling worth, the high integrity, the courageous convictions that descended to him from his forefathers made him of the same bone and sinew as the pioneers of our country. The hardships and privations of his early life, the courage that faced the perils of the wilderness, the fierce enmity of savage men, were fit preparations for his independent and simple character. He belonged to that race of sturdy men who are passing away from us one by one, who fought their way through trial and difficulty from the Atlantic coast to the mighty West.

His good deeds in private life and his faithful public service in every place assigned to him will long be remembered with gratitude by the people of his State. His death was a great personal loss to me. It was my fortune to make his acquaintance in 1863. Although he lived in a part of the State distant from my home, I met him often, and during all the period from our first acquaintance until his death our friendly relations were constant and uninterrupted, and for the last twenty years our associations were intimate and always agreeable to me, and I entertained for him a high personal regard. His death is deplored as a personal loss by those who shared with him public responsibility in Iowa, and by those who served with him from Iowa in the two Houses of Congress, but none deplore his loss more than do his friends and neighbors in the city of his adoption, where he resided nearly fifty-seven years, all of whom respected and esteemed him as an eminent citizen.

I can not more fittingly close this imperfect tribute to his memory than by placing in what we hope may be an imperishable record of his private life and public service an extract from the remarks made on the day of his funeral by the Rev. Dr. Salter, who for half a century has ministered as pastor of the First Congregational Church of Burlington, and who during half a century had known Senator GEAR, and had observed his conduct as husband, father, neighbor, and friend, and as citizen and public servant. Dr. Salter said:

"Seventy-five years ago this was a savage wilderness, as it had been for one hundred and sixty years from its discovery, when the savages gave way to civilization. Ten years after the savages left this immediate region that young life appeared upon the scene, coming here to reside and study law with his uncle, Charles Mason, chief justice of the Territory, bringing here the principles and memories of liberty and

constitutional government, which had advanced this country to the front in the civilization of the world.

"Inheriting a genial nature, bred in immutable morality, reverencing the sense of duty as the guide and safeguard of life, cherishing virtue, honor, and self-respect as jewels beyond silver and gold, making fidelity to whatever work fell to his hands an instant care, JOHN HENRY GEAR, from his youth up, won the confidence, esteem, and affection of his fellowmen. He knew, indeed, the liability to error that is common to us all—how hard it is to distinguish the shows and illusions of sense from the eternal realities. He had, therefore, charity and consideration for others, and was not dogmatic or opinionative, but candid, and listened to reason with mind open to light and knowledge. To these sterling qualities was joined an active and vigorous mind, with a love of knowledge in different directions, a facility and readiness of application to whatever subject called for consideration, and a memory remarkably retentive and accurate. Upon questions of commerce and trade, with which from early life he was especially conversant, and in matters pertaining to the public welfare and to the government and history of the country, he gained a conspicuous and honored place in the nation for the sagacity and wisdom of his counsels. His name is written large in the history of this Commonwealth, in the records of Congress, and in the hearts of thousands of our people.

"While he died in the height of his fame, with such honors clustering his brow as fall to few; secure, so far as human authority and power go, in one of the high dignities of the world, he bore honor and fame with the same simplicity that characterized him in every situation.

"The city of his home bows in sorrow that we shall see his benignant form in our accustomed walks and ways no

more. His life will remain an undying memory in our affection. His dust is to mingle in the cemetery with the dust of his predecessors in the Senate, Augustus C. Dodge and James W. Grimes, who came still earlier to Burlington, each in his halcyon youth, each conspicuous in making our history. The three made here fondly cherished and sacred homes, the joy and pride of their hearts, unalloyed examples of heaven's best gift to man. It may be long—it may never again be—before this city shall have three of its citizens come in any other brief span of fifty years to such honors. Naturally, the honors will be divided among faithful citizens in other parts of the Commonwealth. But the past is secure, and the record is made up for the instruction and cheer of those who shall be called to the charge of the public welfare in the coming half century and in centuries to come."

Address of Mr. Platt, of Connecticut.

Mr. President: In this session, limited in its duration to a period of three months, popularly known as the short session, public business is peculiarly pressing. We have a great and wonderful country, the needs of which are both important and imperative. In its Congress great and weighty questions must be considered and settled. No wonder, then, that sometimes when business of momentous importance demands our attention and the end of the session is growing nearer and nearer day by day, the public feels and we feel that we can not spare even an hour for eulogies of our missing comrades. And yet there is no business more important, no hours more wisely spent than those which we devote to the consideration of the services and virtues of departed Senators.

I should hesitate to say even a word to recall to memory the life of Senator Gear as we knew it here if it were not that his distinguished colleague, in speaking of his family history, has disclosed the fact that his progenitors dwelt for one hundred and thirty years in the State of Connecticut, and that I can not but think their sojourn there was reflected in the life of him whose loss we mourn. His, indeed, from our earliest history, was a family of pioneers. How much in our civilization, our growth, and our development that word "pioneer" signifies. The pioneer instinct dates far back of the early settlement of this country. It is a racial instinct. What developed it in the centuries past none may know; but it led our race westward from its original home in Asia to cross mountain and river and plain, ever westward to the shores of the Atlantic, ever surmounting obstacles, enduring hardships,

triumphing over rude environments, developing thereby all that is noblest and manliest in man, until, halting for a moment, as it were, in England and Holland, it set forth again across the wild Atlantic to take up its pioneer work in subduing a new continent and establishing a new civilization. In this new movement we know that the ancestors of Senator GEAR participated. Of their life before the transoceanic migration we can conjecture but little; of their life in my native State we can understand much.

Less than twenty years after the landing at Plymouth Rock, Connecticut was settled on the river whose name it bears, in the vicinity of Hartford, at its mouth, and at New Haven; and within ten years after these first settlements we are told that Senator GEAR'S ancestors took up their abode near Middletown. Connecticut was a wilderness then. The Indians were hostile, the country was rugged and forbidding except along the sparse but fertile intervale land. Nature, though beautiful, was far from bountiful; but the spirit of manhood, liberty, independence, and worship was there, and in that spirit those whose name Senator GEAR bore wrestled with life and helped to solve its most sacred and weighty problems. The clear sky above them, the beautiful river beside them, the trees, and the begrudging soil alike were wrought into their fiber and became a part of their life.

There is nothing more wonderful or mysterious in our present life than the effect of ancestral influence upon it, and I have often thought how little importance we give to environment in our estimate of this ancestral influence. We construct our genealogical trees with interest and pride. We are proud of our blood as if it were blood alone to which we are indebted, often forgetting that ancestral character as transmitted to us was built up little by little, slowly, steadily, but surely, by the

surroundings amid which our ancestors wrought and fought and died, so that as generation succeeded generation each took on something which it derived from nature and the struggle with nature. Life in Connecticut in those early times developed character such as we who knew Senator GEAR find that he possessed. I may say of the dwellers there what the Senator from Massachusetts [Mr. Hoar], in his address on the life and character of Representative Ashley B. Wright, said of the dwellers in Berkshire County: "They have ever been a patriotic, religious people, lovers of country, lovers of home, of simple manners, of strong sense, open-hearted, generous, hospitable, brave." Such the ancestors of Senator GEAR must have been; such he was, and no higher tribute can be paid to the man than in such truthful description of his character. Henry Ward Beecher, in speaking of the New England farmers, most truly said: "They made the farms, and the farms made the men." And the manhood thus acquired was, two hundred years afterwards, represented in and characterized Senator GEAR.

Mr. President, Connecticut is small in area, rugged in feature, limited in natural resources, but she has contributed through those who have gone forth from her, ever seeking the westward frontier, her full share toward the development and upbuilding of this great country. From her early settlement to the present time she has been sending out her children into fields of new opportunity, until now the influence of Connecticut life is felt, and I hope appreciated, in every State even to the shores of the Pacific. In these new States, conspicuous by their attainments in science, in jurisprudence, in learning, in religion, and in business affairs, her children may be counted by thousands and ten thousands, and while she is justly proud of her early founders and their heroic lives, she

is equally proud of their descendants scattered throughout the whole land, of their lives, and their work. Connecticut has good reason to claim the sad privilege of joining with Iowa in mourning for her dead Senator.

The Senate of the United States is most truly a representative body, no less so in any respect than the House of Representatives. All types of our people find their representatives here, and it is well that it is so. Men of commanding intellect, genius, eloquence, and brilliancy are both needed and found in these Senatorial seats, but other men equally representing the people, and equally useful, who do not attract popular enthusiasm by reason of any unusual or striking gifts, are quite as much needed here—men of strong good sense, men of affairs, of great industry, and unswerving devotion to the principles and the interests of the Republic; men whose general characteristics can best be described by three grand words—sturdy, faithful, and true. Senator GEAR was such a man. Sometimes I think I would rather it should be written on my tombstone, "He was sturdy, faithful, and true," than to have it written, "He was eloquent, learned, and great."

The work which such men as Senator GEAR perform in the Senate may not be heralded by the press, may not dazzle the imaginative mind of the young, may not win the shouts and cheers of the multitude, but it is nevertheless woven into the history of our country and becomes a part of its fame and glory.

There was no more diligent man than Senator GEAR. His diligence both in private and public life was proverbial and won for him the confidence and support of the people of Iowa. How truly the biblical proverb may be quoted as applicable: "Seest thou a man diligent in his business? he shall stand before kings; he shall not stand before mean men." He

comprehended fully the business needs of the country and sought successfully to promote them; and though his abilities found in this sphere their most natural development, he was at the same time always on the right side of great questions and acted upon them with rare understanding and conspicuous sagacity. His work here is done. Let no man say, because he did not apparently seek the plaudits of his fellow-Senators, that his work was not as useful as that of those who have dazzled us by their greater brilliancy.

I have spoken of him as faithful, as well as sturdy and true. How faithful he was those of us who saw and watched him during the last session of the Senate which he attended, and who feared that he was standing and working in the shadow of death, can well understand. We recall how, day by day, in failing health and growing weakness, he nevertheless came to his seat and his duties. We felt with sadness that the unwelcome messenger was seeking him, but we appreciated with admiration the faithfulness with which he held to his work. We respected him, we admired him, we loved him; and I am glad to-day that it is my privilege to testify to that respect, admiration, and love.

Address of Mr. Cockrell, of Missouri.

Mr. President: It is appropriate for the Senate to lay aside its usual legislative labors and duties to-day in order to pay the last tribute of respect, friendship, and honor to the memory and distinguished character of Hon. John H. Gear, a Senator from the State of Iowa in this body from March 4, 1895, to the day of his death, on July 14, 1900, in his seventy-sixth year.

His father, Rev. Ezekiel Gilbert Gear, was a minister of the Episcopal Church and of English descent. Senator Gear was born in Ithaca, N. Y., April 7, 1825. Soon after his birth his mother died and he was taken by his grandmother, with whom he remained till 1831.

Upon his father's remarriage he returned to his father's family and removed with them to Galena, Ill., in 1836, and thence to Fort Snelling, Iowa Territory, I believe it was called, in 1838, where his father, who had been appointed a chaplain in the United States Army, was stationed. He received such a common-school education as was then obtainable in the places of his home.

On September 25, 1843, he left the paternal home and entered upon his personal career by going to Burlington, Iowa, where he worked for a short time on the farm of Judge Mason. He then went to work for merchants in Burlington at the agreed compensation of $50 per annum and board. Upon the dissolution of the firm, in September, 1844, he went with one member of the firm to Keosauqua, Iowa, to work for $8.33 per month and board. In March, 1845, he returned to Burlington and went into the store of W. F. Coolbaugh & Co. as a porter and man of all work. In 1849 he became a partner in the firm

in conducting a general store, until the spring of 1851, when the firm confined its business to wholesale groceries, in which he continued with various associates till September, 1879, when he gave up the mercantile business.

In December, 1852, he was married to Miss Harriet Foote, the youngest daughter of Justus L. and Harriet Foote. Of this union four daughters were born, two of whom died in infancy and two survived their worthy father.

In 1863 he was elected mayor of the city of Burlington, and declined a nomination by acclamation for representative in the Iowa general assembly.

In 1871 he was nominated and elected a representative in the fourteenth general assembly of Iowa, and in 1873 was renominated by acclamation and elected to the fifteenth general assembly and was elected speaker of that general assembly. In 1875 he was again renominated and elected to the sixteenth general assembly and was reelected speaker, a marked distinction which no other representative ever achieved, except one. In 1877, having discharged the duties of speaker of the general assembly so successfully and satisfactorily, he was nominated by his party for governor of his State, and was elected. He discharged the duties of governor so satisfactorily that he was renominated and reelected.

Retiring after two successive terms as governor with great honor and credit, he engaged in mining and manufacturing enterprises until 1886, when he was nominated by acclamation as the Republican candidate for Representative in the Fiftieth Congress, and was elected.

In 1888 he was renominated and elected a Representative in the Fifty-first Congress, was placed upon the Committee on Ways and Means, and took a prominent part in the tariff discussions of that Congress.

In 1890 he was again nominated by acclamation for Representative in the Fifty-second Congress, and was defeated by Hon. J. J. Seerly, whom he had defeated in 1888.

In 1892 he was again nominated for Representative in the Fifty-third Congress, and was elected over Hon. J. J. Seerly.

In November, 1892, he was appointed by President Harrison Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and served during the remainder of his term. He then served as Representative through the Fifty-third Congress.

In January, 1894, he was elected by the general assembly of Iowa a Senator in the Senate of the United States for the term beginning March 4, 1895. He served his country, his State, and constituents as United States Senator with such ability, fidelity, and acceptability that in 1900 he was again elected by the general assembly of his State as his own successor in the United States Senate for the term beginning March 4, 1901, but died before the expiration of his first term.

At the time of his death he was chairman of the Committee on Pacific Railroads, and a member of the Committees on Agriculture and Forestry, Education and Labor, Interstate Commerce, Post-Offices and Post-Roads, and Improvement of the Mississippi River and its Tributaries.

He was a delegate at large from his State to the Republican National Convention in 1892, at Minneapolis, which nominated Hon. Benjamin Harrison for President, and also to the St. Louis Republican Convention, in 1896, which nominated Hon. William McKinley for President.

He stood high in the councils of his party; was an earnest, consistent, and active Republican in his views and principles, but not offensively partisan, conceding to others who held contrary views the same rights he claimed and exercised for himself. In all the relations of life he was the true gentleman,

kind, social, and pleasant. He was a true and reliable friend, ever ready and willing to lend a helping hand, regardless of politics.

His personal friends and admirers were not confined to his political party, for all who knew him well esteemed and loved him for his many manly and noble traits of character. His life is a most remarkable one, and illustrates the achievements, the honors, which are accessible to and obtainable by the laudably ambitious young men of our great country under our beneficent systems of government, State and national. With a limited education and opportunities, at the age of 18 years he began working in a store at $50 per year with board, and by improving every hour, by industry, economy, close attention to his duties, whatever they were, and discharging them honestly and acceptably, step by step he advanced, never retrograding, and earning and receiving the respect and confidence of the people in whose midst he labored. He became mayor of his city, thrice a member of the general assembly of his State, twice speaker, twice governor of his State. A Representative in three Congresses, by popular election, was Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and twice elected to the Senate of the United States, and twice sent as a delegate from his State at large to the national conventions of his party.

His worthy and illustrious life may properly be pointed to as an example of the achievements and honors obtainable by honest, manly conduct, and devotion to duty in every position, however humble and obscure or high and honorable.

He has left behind him a "good name better than precious ointment," and a record of which his family, friends, and the good people of his State may justly feel proud.

Address of Mr. Nelson, of Minnesota.

Mr. President: I first became acquainted with Senator Gear in 1887, when we were both members of the Fiftieth Congress. From the very first instant of our acquaintance we became attached to each other, and I found him a most genial, considerate, kind, and helpful friend and associate, always ready to lend a helping hand and to say a good word for me. And I stood in need of his kindness in those days, for I represented a large district of new country, requiring much local legislation, for which, under the rigid rules of the House, it was not always easy to obtain consideration. He seemed to appreciate my difficulties more than many of my associates, and he was always on hand to smooth over the rough places and to help me out of a dilemma. Although that was his first term, and though he was not a great debater, yet from the very start he became an influential member, whose good sense, sound judgment, and keen insight were highly valued and appreciated by his associates.

His vast experience in public affairs before he entered the House of Representatives had better equipped him and made him better qualified for the important duties of a legislator than most men who entered that body. This was recognized by all. He had been a member and speaker of the house of representatives of his State legislature for several terms, and had been for two terms one of the ablest and most efficient governors of his State. He was known to all his associates as "Governor" Gear, and the term "governor" was not, in his case, used in a perfunctory or vain sense, but with all the force and value that the term implies. His firmness and

rugged honesty and integrity were visible in his mien and carriage, and were recognized and felt by all. When he supported a measure his support gave it credit, and doubts and misgivings disappeared.

He was fair, just, and fearless in the performance of his duties, and charitable and considerate to those who differed with him. He had the happy faculty of softening and allaying that acrimony that occasionally occurs in the House. He was attentive and watchful throughout the sessions and few things escaped his notice, and though not one of the leaders of the House, yet he was one of the chief mainstays of those who assumed to lead, and without whose assistance their leadership would have been a failure. His advice and opinion on all great questions were sought and valued by his associates. Such, Mr. President, were my impressions of him while his colleague in the House. There was another bond, too, which drew us to each other. He had been in his youth, from 1838 to 1843, a resident of Fort Snelling, in what is now the State of Minnesota—then the Territory of Iowa—and his father continued a resident of Fort Snelling and of Minneapolis, Minn., from that time until his death, in 1873. The fact that what is now Minnesota had been his boyhood home and the home of his father for so many years made him always take a deep interest in the State and its Representatives. He often said to me, "I take almost as much interest in Minnesota as I do in Iowa, my own State."

When I parted with him at the close of the Fiftieth Congress I little thought that we would again be associated in the public service. But fate and kind constituencies brought us in March, 1895, together again in this body, and here we renewed our old friendship, and once more became brothers in sympathy, fellowship, and labor.

His presence here at that time was an assurance to me, and I felt that I still had my old staff to lean upon. In this body he became an active, industrious, and most useful member, ever zealous in the performance of his duties, and ever helpful in promoting the great work of the Senate. In this body there are always, more or less, a number of able speakers and debaters, who render great service to the country and to their associates by elucidating, in their speeches on the floor of the Senate, the intricate problems involved in important measures of general legislation. But such measures usually require much preliminary care, thought, and preparation, both in committee and outside, before they become subjects of formal debate; and the chief burden of this preliminary work is, to a large extent, entailed upon and assumed by the silent members—the members not prone to much debate—of the Senate. There is also much important legislation which is of a local or personal character, such as pertains to claims, to river and harbor improvements, to matters relating to Indian affairs, to public lands, and to commerce and shipping. As a rule this class of legislation, while not provoking much debate, generally requires a great deal of care, study, and attention, and this usually devolves upon the silent, but industrious, members of this body, to whom the orators and debaters freely accord the task.

Then, too, it often happens that after the orator or debater has made his speech he leaves the task of piloting the measure through to humbler coadjutors. The former has the glory of debate, the latter the glory of passing the bill. The glory of the former gives renown, while the glory of the latter is often lost and unnoticed. In war the bugler sounds the charge, but it is made and carried on to victory by a phalanx of silent but determined men. So in the field of legislation.

The orator may sound the keynote, but the silent, thoughtful, and painstaking members prepare, pilot, and pass the measures. Senator GEAR was typical, and one of the foremost members, of this class. His voice was not often heard in debate, and yet he was most industrious and effective in promoting general, special, and local legislation. He had an effective and convincing way of arguing, not collectively, but individually, with his associates, that made him one of the strongest and most useful members of this body. His judgment as to the merits and soundness of a measure was valuable and well-nigh infallible. With all his ability and vast experience, he was, nevertheless, as modest and unobtrusive as though he had been an abecedarian, and this modesty, coupled with his great intrinsic worth, endeared him to all of us.

One of the greatest and most pronounced blessings of our system of government is this: That there is an open door and a free field for the humblest, in the most unfavorable environment, to ascend from the lowest level to the highest field of usefulness and success. The humblest youth, with a vigorous mind, a stout heart, and a clear conscience, may with confidence aspire to the front rank in the business or political world. But while such opportunities are placed within the reach of all, it is only the industrious, the energetic, and the persevering who succeed. The spirit of democracy is exacting and has no patience with mere wealth or ancestry. Borrowed plumage is of no value. Merit, real, genuine, and intrinsic merit, alone prevails. And hence we are always safe in assuming that the successful man has earned, merited, and deserved the promotion and rank to which he has attained; that he has not been born to it, but has grown to it through his energy and ability. This fact is fully illustrated and clearly verified in the case of

Senator GEAR. He began his mercantile career without means, as a porter and man of all work, at nominal wages, in a store of which, in the course of a few years, he became one of the proprietors and managers. In this field he exhibited rare talents of a superior order, and became one of the most prosperous and successful of merchants in an enterprising and growing city of his State.

His marked ability and energy in this field soon attracted the attention of his fellow-townsmen. They felt the need of such a man in the public service. They first elected him alderman of the city council, then mayor, and after that they repeatedly sent him as their representative to the legislature. The legislature soon discovered his worth and chose him their speaker. As a legislator and a presiding officer he demonstrated to the people of the entire State his sound judgment, great wisdom, and rare executive ability. The whole State needed the service and appreciated the talents of just such a man, and hence it came to pass that the people of Iowa twice placed him in the chair as their chief executive. And in this high position he made a record for himself and his State of which he and his people had good reason to be proud. His fame as governor extended beyond the bounds of his own State. I had heard of Governor GEAR and his rugged integrity and rare executive ability long before I met him in the House of Representatives. The culmination of his public career was his election to the United States Senate in 1894. He came here mature in years, mature in experience and wisdom, and well qualified to take an active part in the serious and exacting work of the Senate, and eminently fitted to cope with able associates in the varied and perplexing intricacies of the legislation of a great nation.

The career of Senator GEAR in the public service is a

record which the most brilliant of men could well be proud of and rejoice in. But he was not a brilliant man in the common acceptation of the term, and therefore his great success as a public servant was all the more remarkable, all the more creditable, and all the more worthy of commendation. It demonstrated that he was possessed of a latent force and energy equal to the greatest task, and that as a man of action he was equal to the most brilliant and ostentatious of men. The man of deeds inspires, stimulates, and guides his country quite as often and quite as much as the man of words. That humble member of Parliament, that serious and sincere man of few words, Oliver Cromwell, was a greater man in all the substantial attributes of greatness, and rendered greater services to his country, both at home and abroad, than that brilliant orator and word painter, Edmund Burke; and the men who emptied the chests of tea in Boston Harbor rendered as great a service to the cause of independence as Patrick Henry. In this age of electricity, steam, and daily newspapers, and in a government such as ours, where the sentiment of the masses, rather than of the individual, however prominent, is controlling, the brilliant man of words may have many hearers, but is apt to have less followers than the determined man of action, who duly responds to the just demands of the public. This fact was palpable in the case of Senator GEAR. In public confidence and in public esteem he outran in his day many a man who seemed more brilliant and was more eloquent. And this proves that the public demand for such servants will not abate, and that they will always be needed and will always have a great sphere of work and usefulness that none can better fill.

The American people are possessed of a higher average of

culture and intelligence than any other nation, and hence the trend of their progress and development is steady, prudent, and conservative, and no room is found for the visionary or Utopian, however brilliant and alluring it may be. They choose their own leaders not so much from those who want to lead or tower above them as from those who are near their own level in purpose, spirit, and inspiration. Practical usefulness, coupled with scrupulous integrity, is what they look for and desire in their public servants; in other words, they want above all things a safe man rather than an emotional and wordy man. Such a man is always in touch with an American constituency; such a man is always their true exponent; such a man they always have use for, and such a man was, emphatically, Senator GEAR. And it was because of this fact, as well as on account of his energy, ability, and integrity, that his life in its entirety was a great success and proved an exalted example for our American youth to emulate and follow.

When he first settled in Burlington, Iowa was a mere Territory on the outer verge of the great West. Since that day it has grown into one of the great States of the Union. In those Territorial days he began life as an humble chore boy in a frontier store, but he kept pace with the growth and development of his State, and when he died he was one of the chief political pillars of that great Commonwealth, leaving a legacy not of accumulative riches, but the legacy of a long and useful life in the public service.

We live in an age of mammon, in the midst of a restless struggle for wealth, but how delusive it often is. Look at the career of the youth who embarks in a struggle for the almighty dollar. His whole life, his whole aim, is to accumulate wealth—it becomes his second nature. His spirit pines for

nothing else year in and year out, and finally he exhausts himself in the effort, succumbs, and dies, bequeathing his millions to children or other heirs who scarcely thank him for it, and who oftentimes are wholly unfit to make proper use of such a legacy. Our public press and our orators may laud such a man, but in spite of all this such a life is nothing but the vanity of all vanities, barren to him who leads it, barren to his kin, and barren to our common humanity. In comparison with the life of such a man, how noble, grand, and inspiring is the life and career of such a man as Senator GEAR. Such a man is missed, such a man is blessed, and the example of such a man is an inspiration to all who seek to become useful and a help to their age, their country, and to humanity. Dives is a dwarf in comparison with such a man. This is the immutable law of everlasting truth and justice, now and for all time to come. Let all of us take this gospel to heart; it will assuage our grief and give us renewed hope for the future.

Dear departed friend, we have been associates in two great forums on this side of the grave. May we again become associates in that higher and better forum, where our presiding Chief will be that great Fountain of Mercy, Truth, and Light, under whose benign mercy and goodness we hope to find a final haven of rest.

Address of Mr. Spooner, of Wisconsin.

Mr. President: I am compelled to speak only unstudied words in tribute to the memory of our late colleague, Senator Gear. I shall always esteem it a fortunate circumstance in my life that I was permitted to enjoy his personal friendship. Few men less need the testimony of those who survive them to establish the possession of great qualities than did Senator Gear. He proved the possession of such qualities beyond possibility of challenge by the life which he lived and by the great career which he wrought out. It is impossible that one could have such a career in the public service, extending over thirty years, beginning in the humblest position and rising higher and higher to a seat in this body, to which, all things considered, no other position is comparable, without great ability, integrity, sound judgment, and the utmost fidelity to duty in large things and in small. All these Senator Gear had.

He belonged to a class of men rapidly disappearing. He was one of the pioneer statesmen of the country. His youth and early manhood were spent upon the border. It was a rough school, but it was a great school. It was an environment of danger and hardship. It demanded a clear eye, steady nerve, prompt decision, and sometimes a quick and accurate use of the rifle. In it the youth of inherent manliness and strength of moral character developed physically, mentally, and morally into a strong-fibered, alert, rugged, and intrepid man. The class of public men of which he was a fair type has contributed immeasurably to the service of the country and to its imperishable renown.

The frontier has passed away, and the frontier statesman is

passing away. We will, of course, have strong-fibered, able, faithful men for the public service of the future, but they will differ somehow from the men of whom I speak, for the environment in which they were educated and out of which they came can not come again.

It is doubtless true that Senator GEAR was an ambitious man. Most men who are born leaders of men, as he was, are ambitious men. To say that of him is only to say that he was a natural man. Were it not for the ambition which is implanted in us, and which inspires us to look upward, and to work upward, the world would not move much in any department of human effort. It is fortunate for the country that his ambition led him to serve the public in an executive and legislative way rather than to the acquisition of wealth. Bacon said, and it is quite true, that—

> Men in great places are thrice servants—servants of the sovereign or State, servants of fame, and servants of business; so as they have no freedom, neither in their persons nor in their actions nor in their time. It is a strange desire to seek power over others and to lose power over a man's self.

It may and does sometimes seem strange indeed, but it is none the less natural, as many other things which seem strange are natural, and it is fortunate that honest-minded men are found with ambition to enter the public service, in which there is so much of burden, of personal sacrifice, and so little of reward, except in the consciousness of duty well performed and in the respect of a constituency well served. Herein was the inspiration, it seems to me, of our late colleague.

He was essentially a loyal man in every way. He was firm in his friendships. No person once admitted to his friendship ever lost it without just cause. In the great Commonwealth which he helped to found he took great pride, and to her he gave loyalty without stint. He was loyal to his party and to his country.

His patriotism was a passion. His mind was strong and his mental vision broad. His grasp upon the subjects with which he had to deal was comprehensive and, while not an orator, he was an effective speaker, in the House of Representatives, in the Senate, and on the hustings. He thought clearly, and he had the courage of his convictions. He sought earnestly the right solution of every problem, the sound side of every question, and his conclusion he was willing to abide by. He had the courage to say what he thought and the ability to find apt words in which easily and plainly to convey his thought to others.

He loved popularity, but he found it easy to withstand popular clamor, hastily aroused, and to act as he thought best, confidently leaving his justification to the calmer and maturer judgment of his constituency. His methods were direct and manly. He left no opportunity for speculation as to his position. He was frank and open. Simple in his habits, it was quite impossible for him to indulge in affectation.

Whatever change came in his fortunes, or whatever advancement in life, it wrought no discoverable change in him or in his manner. As much as any man I have ever known, he was without moods—the same at one time as he was at another—genial, kindly, and approachable. Along the whole pathway of his life, Mr. President, he bore a sympathetic heart and a hand always helpful, and bestowed benefactions and kindnesses, sometimes in a lavish way, to all who had claim upon him and to very many who had none.

It is in harmony with the better side of our human nature that as a rule kind words only are spoken of the dead. Sometimes, Mr. President, they are perfunctory. I have not at any time seen in the tributes paid to a public man upon his death any more obviously sincere and earnest and tender than the expressions upon the death of Senator GEAR by the press of Iowa and among

the people of that State. There is no false note in any one of them.

There is a tendency in some States of the Union, notably, perhaps, in some of the Western States, among young men who are interested in political affairs, to become somewhat restive and discontented over the long abiding of one man in high public position. It seems not to be so in Iowa. The young men of that Commonwealth, in every contest which came into the life of Senator GEAR, as a rule were found around his standard, and in the contest over his last election to the Senate, although his competitor was young, brilliant, and genial, the young men of Iowa by the hundreds, I have been told, rallied to the support of the old statesman whom through the years they had learned to love and believe in. This condition in Iowa is in itself a high tribute to Senator GEAR and to his qualities, as it is to the distinguished Senator from that State [Mr. Allison] who has just spoken so tenderly, so beautifully, and so adequately of his departed colleague and friend.

The last months of Senator GEAR'S service here were at once pathetic and characteristic. Not one of us will soon forget how, obviously already stricken, he came day after day, sometimes with tottering step, Mr. President, to his accustomed place in this Chamber, and that there came with him the devoted wife, who through so many years had been at his side, his helpmeet and his friend, to take her place in the gallery yonder and to watch him as he sat here or moved about the Chamber in discharge of Senatorial duty, anxious lest he overtax his failing strength. And during those months how faithful he was, not only in discharge of duty here in every detail, but likewise in performing in the Departments that toilsome function inseparable from this position. He was to

the last, as he had been all his life, in all things, trivial and important, faithful. He could not be otherwise, Mr. President, and no higher tribute can be paid to a public servant.

His character was in one of the resolutions adopted in Iowa upon his death well described thus:

> Here was a great nature, a strong and healthy mind and body, in whose blood there was no rebellious envy or uncharitableness or ill will, who believed in his fellow-men and sought to serve them, and who, as he in large measure loved and served his fellow-men, found love and service measured to him again.

It seemed to some of us for some time before he died that the heavy hand of death was upon him. Whether he realized that for him the little boat was waiting on the river near by, it is not for us to know. Had he known the appointed moment he would have performed the duty of each day, calmly looking forward to its approach. He was in that sense a "minute man," ready for any crisis when it should come. The evening before he died he made an appointment to go at a fixed hour the following morning with a constituent to one of the Departments, there to render him a service. Before the hour arrived the summons came which comes to all, and—

> He gave his honors to the world again,
> His blessed part to Heaven—and slept in peace.

Address of Mr. Morgan, of Alabama.

Mr. President: In the life of Senator John H. Gear the Senate of the United States has one of its truest memorials and strongest proofs that it is a body of indispensable necessity to a government that is republican in form—which means a government that is representative of the people.

The threads of life that are woven into his history are attached, in his personal experiences, to the rock bottom of American pioneer life, and have grown longer and stronger as the years advanced, until they reached the highest point of American aspiration without the breaking of a strand.

Mr. Gear cut loose from nothing in the past to reach that something for the future that so often tempts men of genius to quit solid foundations for flights into the imaginative zones of ambition that are resplendent with the enticing beauties of "castles in the air."

He never forgot his youth in the dreams of advanced age. He was in heart and soul the representative of the people—the masses, as they are called by political economists—in their personal rights and liberties, their homes, however humble, their vocations and their troubles, when he became the representative in the Senate of the sovereign State of Iowa, as truly as he represented and cared for them when he was an alderman of the second ward of Burlington.

In the offices he held, of alderman, representative in the general assembly of Iowa, speaker of the house of representatives of that body, governor of Iowa, Representative in Congress, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and a Senator of the United States, and in the contests for election through

which he passed, every strand and fiber of his life was tried and tested in the crucible of public opinion, and they were found to be good and steadfast. During all that long public trial he was not known as a great man and did not seek for such renown.

He was known as a true man and faithful, a man of toilsome diligence, a workman approved of his master—the people—and of courageous faith and inflexible adherence to his convictions.

He was a rugged man, who had need of all his strength and fortitude to make his way from the bottom to the top of the ladder, for he met strong resistance at every step and was often checked by defeat.

It was his courage and his honest devotion to the people that enabled him to retrieve his defeats and to continue the course of duty, which, as it developed into higher demands upon his energies and abilities, found him prepared, and was followed as his guide to higher stations in his journey.

The performance of duty was his highest ambition, and he neither sought nor found any rewards that he did not earn. There is no glitter in the volume of his long service to attract the admiration of the passing observer, but there is a repose in the strength and solidity of the structure he built with his own hands, neither letters or the arts or the sciences assisting him, that attracts the thoughtful American to the great truth that in honest adherence to correct principles and faithful service in our temple of liberties the doorkeeper is a greater man than the king who dwells in royal palaces built by the hands of his servants.

The Senate of the United States as a body endowed with great and singular powers, the political center of the national powers of 45 sovereign States and of 76,000,000 of free and

self-governing people, has no peer in its powers and influence elsewhere among the nations, ancient or modern. In this tribunal the States are represented by Senators who are chosen by the legislatures as the true representatives of the character of their people. Recently, since I have been a member of this body, and shortly before that date, a number of new States have been admitted to the Union from the great Territories of the Northwest.

The Senators who come here to represent these new States have constituencies scattered thinly over vast areas, with resources of great variety and rich abundance just in the beginning of development.

They are pioneer peoples, and their Senators are, many of them, pioneers in new fields of statecraft and political economics; but they are strong, sturdy, brave, and skilled in leadership, and they explore these new fields of legislation as they travel the shoreless plains of the West and its great mountain ranges in ease and security, relying upon their instinctive knowledge of courses and distances for their guidance rather than upon the charts prepared by others. In that strength of self-confidence they thread the labyrinths of legislative procedure without ever missing the point to which their course is directed. I have an earnest admiration of those pioneer Senators and of the system that welcomes and relies upon their wisdom in the guidance of the Republic.

In the Senate there are not a few able men who were educated in the wilds of America, where schools were not and churches were scarce, and education was confined to lessons of experience, and mental growth came from self-training.

Honor, duty, obedience to law, justice, and charity were taught in fireside lessons and received with filial reverence by these men, and were carried out on the journeys of life as the

preparation with which the feet of the righteous are shod. Thus fortified, they do not falter, whatever the length or the hardships of the journey.

There is a place here of great importance for these pioneer Senators, and when any of them withdraw it is not certain that their places can be safely filled with others of more modern training in the schools.

When any of them retire they carry with them the sincere regard of the Senate. Those men who are actual pioneers, born and raised on the borders of civilization, and others who received their education from sailors before the mast, and yet others whose boyhood was spent in hard labor in the fields and in the workshops, have brought wisdom to these councils, and strength of truth to our support, and the invaluable benefit of common sense to the direction of the Senate. Whether they ascend or descend to the atmosphere of the great scholars of the Senate—bred in our universities—these men are a necessary element in the strength of the Senate, and bring to it that greatest of all its influence, the confidence of the people. Perhaps no man ever held a commission in this body who was a more complete embodiment of this pioneer character than the late Senator from Iowa.

He had no time in his childhood to receive more than the simplest form of country school education, yet he was a man of learning in many important respects.

His father was a minister of the gospel and taught him the truths of the divine revelations, and the morality that is enshrined in that holy faith. This was a noble opportunity for his son, but it also required diligent toil of its votaries to provide daily bread.

In the simple annals of that family one of its proudest achievements was the employment of the son, John Henry, as

a clerk in the store of the Bridgman Brothers, at the compensation of $50 a year, with board.

The mother had been called to her great reward and was not present at the home of this Vicar of Wakefield in the wilderness to bless this first great promotion of her boy; but she has watched his progress from happier eminences, and has witnessed the growth of the plant that was watered with her tears and consecrated with her prayers while it was still an infant nestling upon her bosom when she died. I believe in the prayers of a righteous mother.

As he grew from strength to strength and rose by slow and toilsome steps in his silent progress toward a very high destiny some power attended him that impressed him with a keen sense of duty and a knowledge of his intrinsic worth and power upon his associates, who began early in his life to assign him to lines of public duty as their representative.

In this character, both in the State and Federal tribunals, Mr. GEAR established his just right to their confidence. Those who are educated and trained politicians may not comprehend this force of character and devotion to duty that wins its way to the hearts of the people, but in a free country and in the suffrages of a virtuous people it is character that commands confidence.

Mr. GEAR had few of the gifts and arts of speaking to masses of people, or in legislative assemblies, that attract attention by captivating periods, yet he had marked success in advocating measures that he favored and opposing such as he disapproved. His work on the legislation of the country is distinctly written, and is an honorable testimonial to his abilities as a statesman.

To one who knew him only as an acquaintance he was a man of severe and reserved demeanor, but a nearer approach

to him in social and official life brought out the traits of a generous, sensitive, and cordial nature.

His friends grew in number and depth of attachment as his years advanced, and none turned away from him to become his enemies. This alone is a record worthy of a life of hard service, and is the richest reward that any man can earn. It is the judgment of his contemporaries upon his whole life, not always tempered with the mercy of divine compassion or the impartiality of divine justice, and it is a tribute of respect that lasts through long periods to gratify posterity.

Mr. GEAR left this bequest to his family, his friends, and his country. In response to his honorable labors for his country, the Senate and the people express for his memory their respect, gratitude, and affection.

The Senate, if it deals justly with the dead, sits in judgment on their official history when their obsequies are celebrated.

In that court character is the final test. It is the just man that survives the ordeal.

Daniel was a great ruling power in all departments of the Hebraic government, but his administration was impeached and he was called to trial for alleged delinquencies. Even his fine character did not shield him from investigation, nor did he plead it as a protection; but it made his triumph an eternal record that will not fade while Holy Writ is the guide, instructor, hope, and comforter of mankind. "The presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error." And this is the judgment of the Senate upon the public life of Senator JOHN HENRY GEAR.

Faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, and godliness are the elements that combine in the highest human

character, and they are the sure moral supports of the character of the Senate.

If one column can not support the great dome of the temple, yet there are many, each bearing its burden, and all are entitled to equal honors who are equally faithful. Senator GEAR bore his part of this mighty burden along with many who have not sought places in the friezes and panels of fame that decorate this temple, but the records of the Senate will always show forth his faithful work and crown his memory with honor.

Address of Mr. Burrows, of Michigan.

Mr. President: A somewhat extended service in the House of Representatives with the Hon. John H. Gear, of Iowa, and the opportunity thus afforded by daily contact to learn something of his excellent qualities of head and heart, is sufficient apology, if excuse were needed, for a word from me touching the life and character of my friend, Senator Gear.

One can not be associated with another in a legislative body for any considerable length of time, with its inevitable conflicts and antagonisms, without forming something of an estimate of his temper and dominant characteristics. Senator Gear came to the House of Representatives not an untried or unknown man. He had filled many offices of honor and responsibility in his State, and had a reputation extending beyond its confines. Mayor of his adopted city, member of the legislature and speaker of the house, twice elected governor of the Commonwealth, he seemed to have such a hold on the confidence and affection of his people that there was no honor within their gift they were not ready and willing to confer.

Having reached the summit of State official life, it was but natural that his people, appreciating his sterling qualities, should confer upon him the higher honor of a membership in the great American House of Commons. He was of the people, and the people demanded his services in the popular branch of Congress. He entered the House of Representatives and became a member of that great forum in the full maturity and vigor of his intellectual powers, and at once took a commanding position in the deliberations of that body—not as a ready and forceful debater, for he was not that—but in the

councils of his party associates and in the deliberations of the committee room, where really all legislation is carried on and perfected. His excellent judgment, his wise guidance and patriotic impulses easily won for him a commanding position in the confidence and esteem of his associates, a position he continued to hold during his prolonged service in that body.

In the real work of legislation he was a recognized power. Committee assignments in the House of Representatives are determined not so much by length of service in that body as by fitness and adaptability to the work in hand. Senator GEAR'S business career had been such as to bring him in touch and familiarize him with the great industrial life of the people in all its varied ramifications and marvelous developments, and it was but natural and fitting, therefore, that he should be assigned to the great business committee of the House, the Committee on Ways and Means. He was specially fitted by education and training for this field of labor, and was, therefore, by common consent assigned to its difficult and arduous duties. He became a member of that committee at a time when it was charged with the grave and responsible duty of formulating the tariff measure of 1890, at the head of which committee was the present Chief Executive of the nation, whose illustrious name that measure bears.

It is not too much to say, and I detract nothing from the just meed of praise due to others, that no member of that committee, barring its then learned head, contributed more to the result obtained than did Mr. GEAR. He brought to the consultations of the committee room not the philosophy of the schools or the dreams of the mere theorist, but rather the practical experience of a business life, of infinitely more value than all the speculations of the political economist. He seemed to possess upon almost every subject connected with

that legislation an inexhaustible fund of information and a knowledge of its infinite details, gathered from the practical experiences in life, which served at all times to illumine the subject and light the way to wise and safe conclusions. If there was nothing else in his public life to commend his memory to the regard and keeping of his fellow-citizens, his labors on the committee in connection with this great measure would be sufficient to commend it to enduring regard.

Unfortunately, he was not long a member of the Senate, but long enough, I am sure, to gain the confidence and respect of the membership of this body and make his departure a sincere sorrow. He was a wise and safe counselor, an intelligent and painstaking legislator, a patriotic citizen, and last, though not least, a sincere friend. His life work seemed, however, to be complete. He lived beyond the allotted span of human existence, and left an impress of his work on the statutes of his country which, in its beneficent influence, will be as enduring as the Republic itself.

Address of Mr. Mason, of Illinois.

Mr. President: I first heard of Governor Gear when I was a boy, and I knew him when he was a member of the Iowa legislature, speaker of the house of representatives. At that time I was employed as committee clerk and stenographer in the old capitol. Afterwards I served with him in the House of Representatives in the Fiftieth and Fifty-first Congresses. Van Buren County, Iowa, which was a part of his Congressional district, was my old home, where I had been reared, and, knowing so many of his friends and constituents, we were frequently thrown together and talked over old affairs at the old home in those two memorable Congresses, the Fiftieth and the Fifty-first.

It was on the Ways and Means Committee, of which the Senator from Michigan [Mr. Burrows] has just spoken, where he had abundant opportunity to show his great and tireless energy. My recollection is that he was not on the Ways and Means Committee in the Fiftieth Congress, but was active in opposition to what was known as the Mills bill, or the revenue measure which took the name of the afterwards distinguished Senator from Texas, Mr. Mills. After that he went upon the committee, as I remember it. In the Fifty-first Congress it became necessary to formulate what was known as the tariff act of 1890.

If I should be asked to-day by any colleague what, in my opinion, were his strong points of character, I should say his sterling and robust honesty and his never-failing industry. Add to this great kindness of heart, considerate attention to the wants of others, and there is no wonder why we in the Senate to-day miss him and why we mourn him. Many times and oft

have I seen men approach him, in many cases in anxiety and distress, and tell their story. I never knew men or women so poor or so unimportant in the affairs of life as not to receive his careful and kindly attention. I knew him thirty years, a part of the time intimately, and I never knew him to speak unkindly of anyone.

Senator GEAR despised mean and small things, small gossip. He sat in judgment on no man. He was a good citizen, a good Senator, a devoted lover of his family and his home, and a great worker. I remember in the old days in the House, when his mail was perhaps the largest of any that came. He was a good worker, yet fond of social conversation and chats. He was serious in business affairs, but yet a merry twinkle at times in his eye showed a keen appreciation of a good story. I think it was he who told me first the glory of a grandchild. He said that in the glory of the grandchild one has all the joy and the fun and none of the responsibility.

I happened to be in Alaska at the time of the Senator's death. I did not hear of it for some weeks. I had just come down from White Pass and boarded the steamer at Skagway when I met a gentleman who had arrived there that day and told me the news of his death. I sat on the deck a long time, and in the rocks and in the everlasting hills I saw a type of his strong character and his never-failing courage, and in the quiet valleys filled with the music of running waters and singing birds I saw a type of his life in the harbor of his home.

Life is indeed a book. We read it page by page and day by day. While the page of to-day may bring the shout of laughter to the lips, the page of to-morrow will be blurred with tears. The road of to-day may lead into a dark, foreboding to-morrow, but ere to-morrow's sun shall set we may pitch our tents within sight of the spires and domes of a friendly city.

I think, Mr. President, one of the happiest times in life is when holding a fresh, new soul within our arms, fresh from the great immortality of the past, and the saddest hour is when, holding some loved friend by the hand, he steps down into the valley of the shadow we call death.

We turn to the earth, and it is barren; to the sky, it is lead. The rift in the clouds only is the hope of immortality born within us and testified to by every line of nature that lies about us like an open book. With this light in our eyes we turn again to the earth, and it is no longer barren; again to the sky, and it is no longer leaden, for we read the same voice in the storm or in the breaking wave, in the quiet nook around the sunny bank, the same voice of faith—be patient, God reigns, and immortality is the jewel of the soul.

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in His justice that is more than charity;
For the love of God is broader than the measure of man's mind,
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

Address of Mr. Clay, of Georgia.

Mr. President: When I entered the Senate in 1897 I immediately formed the acquaintance of Senator Gear. We served together on the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads from that time until his death, and I believe that I enjoyed in a large degree his friendship and confidence. I often served with him on subcommittees from the Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads to investigate charges made against appointees coming before the committee. While Senator Gear and myself belonged to different political parties, I most cheerfully bear testimony that I found him always ready and anxious to ascertain the truth and to report on the merits of each case, regardless of partisan politics. It was no uncommon thing, after the testimony was heard and a full and complete investigation had been made, to find that both of us had reached the same conclusion.

If an appointment was made in my own State and I challenged the fitness of the appointee, Senator Gear was always willing to accept my statement as to the character of the appointee without further statement. I believe he had confidence in anything I said, and I found him to be a loyal and faithful friend. Unquestionably he rendered valuable services to the people of my State in assisting me to reject unworthy and incompetent appointees, and it was through his influence that two or three objectionable appointments in my State were withdrawn.

I feel it just to say that had the real facts been known the appointments would never have been made. Senator Gear was a plain, blunt man, who never used words to conceal his

thoughts. In the discharge of his official duties he was prompt, thorough, and successful.

It was my observation, in serving on the committee with him, that whatever duty was assigned him he performed it promptly and cheerfully. He always kept up with his work and did it well. He had the respect, confidence, and esteem of his associates. He was of pleasant address and courteous manners, and was a genial companion.

At an early day after I entered the Senate I learned to regard him with affectionate interest and to appreciate his disinterested friendship. He was a modest man, and temperate in all of his habits. Judging from what I knew of him, he had avoided and escaped those excesses which have wrecked and ruined the lives of so many of our great men.

His career was a most successful one. The many exalted positions to which he was chosen in his own State, filling them all with credit and distinction, bear testimony to his real worth. He died in his seventy-fifth year and had been a member of the Iowa house of representatives; was speaker for two terms; was twice elected governor of his State; was a member of the Fftieth, Fifty-first, and Fifty-third Congresses; was elected a Senator in Congress from his State for six years and had been reelected a short time previous to his death; consequently at the time of his death he had a full term of six years to serve in the Senate.

He represented a great constituency and had the confidence of the people of his great State. The high positions which he held and the long public service which he so well performed, the regard in which he was held by his associates in this Senate, all attest that his life was a useful and successful one.

He did not claim to be a great debater, but he always

presented his contentions in the committee rooms with such clearness and earnestness as to carry conviction, and his words and counsel always carried great weight.

After I thoroughly understood the man, I was not surprised at the wonderful success he achieved as a public man. He was one of the most amiable men I ever knew. His kindness of disposition and unobtrusive manners drew men toward him and made them feel easy in his presence. He was readily approachable and the very soul of gentleness in his personal relations with all who knew him, and I believe I can safely say the better he was known the more highly he was esteemed. I always observed that he had a kind word for everyone with whom he came in contact.

When you study the character of Senator GEAR and thoroughly understand the life of the deceased, it is not difficult to understand why he achieved such wonderful success. He had a profound knowledge of the people and their modes of thought, the motives that influenced them, and the agencies by which they are controlled. He was simple and unaffected in his habits, courtly and gracious in his manners, and easily won access to the hearts of his constituents.

Men, by reason of their association with him, learned to like, esteem, and then to love him. His kind and obliging disposition evidently gave him a strong hold upon his own people. I never knew a more accommodating man. He would go to any honorable extent to oblige and accommodate a friend.

In the discharge of his public duties he seemed to have an aptitude for details, and he was patient and untiring to faithfully meet and discharge every official obligation resting upon him. He was a constant and faithful attendant to the public interest, and always commanded the respect of those who

did not agree with him in politics, as well as those who were his party associates.

During my entire service with him in the Senate, which lasted more than three years, he gave his best efforts to the services of his State and country. He was industrious, intelligent, simple, and unaffected, actuated by a high sense of duty, and loyally devoted to the best interests of his country. I have often spent hours in private conversation with the deceased, and there was a beautiful simplicity in his private life which elevated and charmed all who came in contact with him. I have seen him in conference with his constituents when they came to Washington, and, to my knowledge, he always met his fellow-citizens with a genial familiarity that made them feel he was one among them and could be approached without ceremony or embarrassment.

As multitudinous as were the demands upon his time, he responded promptly to every request of his constituents, and took great pleasure to do what he reasonably could to have their requests granted. The thorough business habits of the deceased made him a useful man in the Senate. He did much valuable work in the Senate that escaped public attention and for which he never received credit. He was not a man who sought notoriety. His valuable services consisted largely in thorough and effective committee work—just such work as shapes and molds legislation, and which is seldom properly appreciated by the public. Senators know and appreciate the value and importance of such work.

I know full well, from sources that can not be questioned, of acts of kindness and deeds of charity done by Senator GEAR in his lifetime which could only come from a heart touched with the gentle charities of humanity. Alas! his work is finished. He lived beyond threescore years and ten. His life was a

busy and useful one. He fought his own way to success and distinction. The lesson of his life is instructive to the aspiring youth of his country.

He made a career of which his family and friends may well be proud. Mr. President, the one thing that has astonished me more than all else since I have been a member of this Senate is the frequency with which death crosses the threshold of this Hall.

It has been less than four years since I became a member of this body, and seat after seat has been vacated, and funeral after funeral has occurred in both branches of Congress. During this brief period our beloved Vice-President has passed away; so have Senator Harris, of Tennessee; Senator Morrill, Senator Earle, Senator Walthall, Senator George, Senator Davis, and Senator GEAR. "In the midst of life we are in death" is true everywhere, and its warning voice should be kept fresh in the memories of those of us who still survive.

Address of Mr. Dolliver, of Iowa.

Mr. President: My honored colleague [Mr. Allison] has spoken so fully of the public record of Senator Gear that little need be added to complete the biographical sketch which is suited to such an occasion as this, and if it were not for the love I bore him while he lived and the reverence which I feel for his memory I would choose to remain silent, leaving to others the privilege which this hour brings to his old colleagues and associates.

While my acquaintance with Senator Gear began long ago in Iowa, my knowledge of the man became real and intimate in the Fifty-first Congress in the midst of the stirring events which made the first Speakership of Thomas B. Reed notable and historic in the parliamentary progress of the country. Governor Gear was not an old member of the House in the sense of long service, but he was among the few who have been able to get credit there for services rendered in other fields of activity. His peculiar preparation for the business of the House put him in demand for its most difficult duties, and without pushing his claims in the least he found himself, almost from the beginning, conspicuous in the leadership of that body.

He was a child of the frontier, and he bore throughout his life the marks of the rugged and arduous surroundings of his youth. He was not handicapped by the inheritance of wealth. It is doubtful if his good father, a missionary among Indian tribes, a chaplain at remote military posts, was able to contribute much to the young man's support and education after he went out into the world for himself; and the fact-

that we find him working by the month on an Iowa farm and eagerly accepting the most laborious employment in a country store indicates that he solved early the problem of making his own living. He had all the advantages of poverty, without its humiliations; for in a new country, where everybody is engaged in the same struggle, sharing the privations of a common lot, social distinctions are apt to disappear altogether in the almost perfect equality of honorable hardships.

But he received from his father an inheritance better than great riches—a strong body, a healthy mind, and that rational philosophy of life from which he never afterwards deviated. Nor can it be doubted that he obtained at home, under the tuition of his father, a fairly good elementary education, and, in addition, that intellectual vision which inspired his subsequent career; for there must have been in this young rector, when he left behind him the comforts of a well-ordered parish and turned his face toward regions where the foundations of society had not yet been laid, something of an apostolic zeal which raised him above the common level and anointed him as a true chaplain to the wilderness.

I have frequently seen the likeness of Senator GEAR'S father, which he always had near him, and have often been impressed by the stalwart figure of the man and by the refined vigor of his countenance, a countenance reminding one of the reservation of strength which lay in the features of Phillips Brooks in his latter years. He was wise enough to give the boy such assistance as he could and then push him out into the midst of things to fight the battle of life for himself. I count this an immeasurable good fortune to the youth of Senator GEAR, because this world, in the long run, is governed by the intellectual and moral forces which it develops, and human nature is so framed that, with the rarest exceptions, its highest

ranges of power are impossible except under the discipline and pressure of poverty and hard work.

In considering the achievements which followed we ought not to leave out of the reckoning the prairie farm where the boy dug out his living as a hired hand, nor the pay roll of the little store which grew into the great commercial enterprise of which he became the head; for in these humbler stages of his success the character was formed which made him the master of every situation in which he afterwards was placed.

It is doubtful if in his earlier years he ever contemplated a political career. When he was elected alderman in Burlington, it was not because he was a ward politician ambitious for the honors of local politics. His neighbors chose him because the city needed the counsel of such a man, and when he was elected mayor it was because, being successful in his own business, the people desired the benefit of his guidance in the management of theirs. At this time he was nearly forty years of age, and it is certain that he did not even then expect to devote himself to public life, for when shortly afterwards he was nominated for the legislature he refused the nomination.

He was content to be the leading citizen of his town, busy with his own matters, but looking with constant interest to the material growth of the community in which he lived. He was first in every good word and work, promoting the building of railroads, encouraging the establishment of new factories, leading in the improvement of the highways, and vigilant in the maintenance of the schools. We may judge from all accounts that it was this public spirit in the service of his own town that induced him, in 1871, to accept a commission as a member of the legislature, for his first work there appears to have been in connection with matters in which Burlington was chiefly interested.

His duties in the legislature widened his horizon to include the whole State, and from that time until the day of his death he gave to Iowa his time, his energies, and the complete devotion of his heart. In a single year he had made his way to the confidence and approbation of his colleagues in the house and of the State at large, so that no one was surprised when, in the fifteenth and sixteenth general assemblies which followed, he was chosen speaker of the house.

It was while a member of the legislature—four years of the time occupying the post of speaker—that he undertook an elaborate study of the business of the State, of its school system, its institutions of philanthropy, its means of transportation, its scheme of taxation and public expenditures. No detail escaped him. He treated the business of the State as he had conducted the business of his commercial house, so that when he became governor of Iowa he was prepared for the work as few of the distinguished men who have filled that office before or since have been. It was to this period of his career, as he often said to me, that he looked back with the most satisfaction; and in the midst of subsequent honors he never asked and seldom received at the hands of our people any other title than that which he won by four years' service in the chief office of the State.

It is an interesting thing even at this day to read, with a view to an estimate of his character, the messages which he sent from time to time to the legislature. They include an almost incalculable mass of definite information, arranged in perfect order, relating to the State affairs, with recommendations looking to the amendment of the laws, to correct defects, to reform abuses, and to equalize the burdens of the State. The legislature and the people alike trusted him, and when his work was done, with a quaint

mixture of pride and affection, they named him "Old Business" as he retired to private life, with the confidence and good will of all.

Governor GEAR was a politician in the ordinary sense of the term; yet he was entirely without the meaner devices and hypocrisies sometimes suggested by the word. The people knew exactly what he was; he concealed nothing; he looked the world steadfastly in the eye. He had the art of winning the hearts of men; his approach was persuasive, conciliatory, benignant. He knew their names and where they lived—even their first names, which he always preferred to use. His headquarters was always the rotunda of the hotel; and in the last thirty years few Republican conventions have been held in Iowa that did not give him an opportunity to shake the hand and greet in genuine fellowship the men who bear the burden and heat of party politics.

In all this there was no pretense, no affectation, no convention manners. He appeared to be glad to meet men, because there was in him a natural good will to men. He inquired about their families; asked what had become of their boys and girls; and nobody ever doubted that he really cared to know, for he only extended to his wider constituency the same interest and concern which long ago, as one who knew him well has said, endeared him to his neighbors as the best kind of a man to live next door to.

He acquired the habit of taking an interest in others possibly as much from his surroundings as from his disposition, for in a new country, where all are strangers, worried by the same cares and cheered by the same prospects, the kindly amenities of life are slow to degenerate into counterfeit presentments and vain shows, and it must be remembered that while the State of Iowa is not new its older settlers were

all pioneers, and hardly a generation has passed since its farther borders touched the wilderness.

He was not a man of eloquent speech, though he had too much sagacity to underestimate the graces of culture and learning. He did not enjoy in his boyhood the blessing of the public schools, yet the State owes to him much of the enthusiasm and many of the laws which have made its system of popular education a model for the world. He was deprived of the advantages of a college course, yet every one of the 40 little colleges of Iowa numbered him among its helpful friends, while under his administration the noble university of the State and the agricultural college received such liberal consideration that their foundations have been broadened and their usefulness enlarged for all time to come.

He was welcomed everywhere in Iowa as an effective public speaker. When he rose to speak it was instantly recognized that he knew what he was talking about, and with every assembly which he addressed he had the invaluable advantage which belongs to sincerity and truth. He attempted no flights of eloquence; he put on no purple patches; he avoided figures of speech except the familiar illustrations which he found in the homely scenes about him; he dealt with the thing in hand with such force and simplicity of style that he was always sure of approval whether he received applause or not. His popularity on the stump fairly illustrates the fact that it is only necessary for a speaker to have something to say, some message to deliver, some knowledge of the matter in dispute, in which he passes others, in order to give him at once a ready utterance and an attentive audience.

I recollect very distinctly Governor GEAR'S speech in the House on the sugar schedule of the tariff bill of 1890. It was known that he was in a large measure responsible for the

provisions of that bill relating to the importation of sugar and the encouragement of its production in the United States. It was an obscure question, and few members of the House had had either the experience or the instruction required to perfectly see through it.

When Governor GEAR took the floor, the whole House gathered around him, and in a speech of considerable length he discussed the subject, answering all inquiries with thorough information, and when he had closed the House had for the first time a complete understanding of what was involved in the provisions of the proposed law. In spite of the speedy misfortune which overtook the leaders in the tariff legislation of that year, it was always Governor GEAR'S firm conviction that if the policy then outlined by him had been permitted to survive our people would have long since been delivered from dependence on foreign nations for their supply of raw sugar and from private monopoly in the manufacture of the refined article at home.

After that speech no one doubted, if any had before, the fitness of his appointment to the great committee of the House which in these later years has become, in an important sense, the dominant influence in our scheme of Congressional government. He was chosen because, while pretending to none of the studied graces of the platform, nor even to the skill of the controversialist, he nevertheless possessed those resources of knowledge and practical wisdom without which the orators and debaters would make a sad wreck of our affairs. He was, if not the forerunner, at any rate a noted example of the school of statesmanship which, by its profound research into the facts with which governments have to deal, has already noticeably reduced the importance of speechmakers and speeches in the national deliberations.

Governor GEAR'S whole life was a preparation for the position which he reached as a man of affairs in this Capitol. It may be doubted whether any set course of education, any curriculum of the schools could have resulted in so adequate a training as was given to this son of a pioneer clergyman in the university of the world. A noted political leader of our day has broadened the definition of a business man to include workers in every field, on the farm and in the factory, as well as in the bank and in the countinghouse; and while it may be a maxim of private life that every man should attend to his own business, the statesman of to-day in the nature of the case attends to the business of all. Whoever, therefore, has mastered the problems directly and indirectly connected with the books of the national accounts has attained an intellectual rank which no longer has to fear disparagement in American public life.

Senator GEAR had no element of radicalism in his views on public questions. He was careful in making up his mind, cautious in accepting brilliant conclusions, suspicious of high colors, distrustful of millennial discoveries. There was no hospitality in him for morbid opinions about the state of society nor for rosy dreams of impossible social conditions. He knew the world well as it is, and assessed it at its average value, refusing to think that legislation had made it as bad as some claim or could make it as good as some hope. He was tolerant of the frailties of his fellow-men, and in all political differences held to the rule of charity. The noise of fame and the glare of wealth made little impression upon him, and when he was at home, rich and poor, the lowly and the eminent alike, found him a faithful counselor and a congenial friend.

I do not know what church he belonged to or what creed he believed in, but the united witness of those who knew him best

proves that in gracious service of all who needed help he walked in the law of Christ; and when he was buried men and women of all the churches and of every creed drew near to offer the gentle benediction of their tears.

One can not read the addresses and messages of Senator GEAR when he occupied the office of governor, nor the reports of his political speeches in later years, without finding in them all one favorite note—the pride which he felt in the Commonwealth of Iowa.

He always spoke of her in simple Saxon phrase as "our loved State." He came to her borders when a mere boy, before her boundaries were fixed. He watched her growth, and with exultant confidence foretold her future. He measured her resources and waited patiently for their development. He made him friends of her lakes and rivers and knew all the secrets of her prairies. He overheard the conversation of her people, sympathized with their aspirations, had respect to their convictions, entered into their joys and sorrows, and showed himself at once the servant and the representative of their high ideals.

And the great Commonwealth gave back his loyalty with perfect reciprocity; for after he had passed the allotted term of human life, even when he stood, brave and serene, almost within the valley of the shadow, that generous people, seeing the infirmities which he bore, comforted his old age with a parting assurance of their undiminished gratitude and love.

With the leave of the Senate, I will add, as a part of my remarks, an address delivered at Governor GEAR'S funeral by my colleague in the House of Representatives, the Hon. Thomas Hedge, who, on account of his long intimacy with him as neighbor and townsman, was chosen to speak on that mournful occasion.

REMARKS OF HON. THOMAS HEDGE.

The boy, JOHN HENRY GEAR, had already enjoyed a strange experience when he came here to begin his independent life. Of Puritan stock, born in a quiet New York village, he had been for most of his eighteen years a sojourner with his father and mother in the western frontier of inhabited America, on the line between the clearings of the pioneers and the hunting grounds of the red men. He had become used to the rude and stalwart and eccentric sorts of his fellow-man. Hobnobbing with Indians and with soldiers, he had mastered the art and mystery of the hunter and the fisher.

To this schooling his scholar father had added much book learning not to be found in the academic courses of to-day. He had inherited a sound mind in a sound body, a healthy brain, a steady nerve, a straight and clear mental vision, strong social instincts, a craving for friendship, a faith in the sense of justice and good will of his fellow-men, and a catholic and charitable spirit toward them.

This was his preparation, his equipment, his competency uncounted and unsuspected, but sufficient for the life and career veiled before him. This was the remote Territory of Iowa. The great river was the way of necessity to the commerce of the outer world. He found his future home set in a spot of rare beauty, a beauty made rugged and forlorn by the glaring, uncouth shelters of the vanguard of civilization.

His frank address, straightforward look, his plain confidence in the good-fellowship of those whom he approached gained him at once wide entrance into their social order. Character was the study here then, and high character was in demand. He found himself joined unto a people most interesting and attractive—young, of simple ways and plain purpose, endowed with the physical health, the mental vigor, the courage, and force of soul of the most intelligent and enterprising families of the older States, who had made their toilsome progress through the vast solitude and across the great river expecting to make their way, to establish homes, to work out their material salvation by the exercise of the homely virtues of industry, thrift, patience, and watchfulness.

Marked but not separated by the different customs, habits, modes of thought and of expression of their respective places of nationality, by the variety of their inherited beliefs, there was still among them unity in essentials. While it was still a rude society, undisciplined, unorganized, unconventional, willful, impatient of restraint, indulging ever in enough of turbulence to try all the strength of its manhood and grace of its womanhood, there was the general possession and practice of the cardinal virtues, the interchange of the kindly offices of good neighborhood. In that intercourse which the common interest and common necessity quickly make close and intimate they unconsciously but surely corrected, modified, educated, enlarged, enlightened, and Americanized each other.

Their lives were earnest; through tribulation it was for them to come into the kingdom; the habit to overcome difficulties became a second nature and bred in them a fine and constant self-reliance. They valued usefulness; it was their measure of merit and dignity. The ability to serve and the will to serve seemed to the reflecting the only reason and excuse for being. On such vantage ground, in such spacious time, among these men and women of greatest force and highest quality, pioneers, explorers, promoters of commerce, farmers, lawyers, founders of an imperial State, was it given to him to show what manner of man he was. It soon was plain that he was in his own place, an equal in a noble brotherhood.

Here was indeed ability to serve and the will to serve, energy of mind and body ever seeking exercise, diligence in business and a sagacity to secure success, an aptitude for affairs which suggested his constant leadership, a sound sense of duty, manhood, gentleness, and unprofessed and unconscious practice of the golden rule, friendliness, sympathy, sincerity, a bright and pleasant humor. Here too appeared a strange gift for learning men and a strange interest in their welfare, an ever present helpfulness, a human kindness that knitted men's souls to his as the soul of Jonathan was knitted to the soul of David. He was indifferent about externals and accidents. He was concerned about character and not condition. His eye searched the man through the disguise or ornament. He was a respecter of the person and not of the place, and he desired place not as a pedestal for his own conspicuousness, but as a ground and opportunity for the service he knew himself competent to give; and it has seemed to me not unsuitable that in testifying our regard to our old familiar friend we should have respect to him rather than to the high places which he adorned.

We rejoice and are glad that he was legislator and governor and Representative and Senator, because he filled those places worthily, as we rejoice and are glad for the beneficent life he led, the fair name he won, the great character that he attained unto in the town that received him so long ago. We are happy, proud, and grateful that the State which he helped so greatly to exalt to honor and influence and power did in his old age again enrobe him with its highest dignity; that the people whom he served so long and so loyally did brighten his last days with the assurance of their unabated affection.

His life was singularly happy, not because of any peculiarity of material condition nor good fortune of environment, but from his own nature. The world to him was full of charming men and women, because all men and women could present only their charming moods to him. We can not respond to a shining light with shadows. He received what he had given—full measure running over.

He was conscious of the constant favor of his people, that honor, love,

obedience, troops of friends accompanied his old age. If life is given that we may serve our fellow-men, secure their liberty, multiply their opportunities, advance their learning, enlarge their life, that we may help the troubled, encourage the disheartened, protect the feeble, reclaim the wandering, rescue the outcast, restore the prodigal, then was his life a triumph, a sacrifice acceptable. This we believe, and that it is now written of him, "He served his generation according to the will of God."

Mr. President, I respectfully ask for the adoption of the resolutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Clark in the chair). The question is on the adoption of the resolutions submitted by the Senator from Iowa [Mr. Allison].

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to; and (at 3 o'clock and 5 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned until Monday, January 21, 1901, at 12 o'clock meridian.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE.

DECEMBER 3, 1900.

Mr. HEPBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is my painful duty to announce to the House of Representatives the death of JOHN HENRY GEAR, late a Senator from the State of Iowa, who died in the city of Washington on the 14th day of July last.

Senator GEAR'S public career was long and illustrious. It began with Iowa's first political organization. He was perhaps more widely known and beloved than any of her public servants. Regret at his sudden death in the midst of his great career and marked usefulness is everywhere felt in that Commonwealth.

I submit the following resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. JOHN HENRY GEAR, a Senator of the United States from the State of Iowa.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Parkinson, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with deep regret and profound sorrow of the death of the Hon. JOHN HENRY GEAR, late a Senator from the State of Iowa.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate a copy of these resolutions to the House of Representatives.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased the Senate do now adjourn.

JANUARY 10, 1901.

Mr. HEPBURN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Saturday, January 26, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, be set aside to pay tributes of respect to the late Senator JOHN H. GEAR, from the State of Iowa.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Iowa asks unanimous consent that Saturday, January 26, at 4 o'clock p. m., be set aside for tributes of respect to the late Senator GEAR, of Iowa. Is there objection? [After a pause.] The Chair hears none, and that order is made.

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Platt, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed the following resolutions:

Resolved, That it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the Senate hears the announcement of the death of Hon. JOHN HENRY GEAR, late a Senator from the State of Iowa.

Resolved, That the Senate extends to his family and to the people of the State of Iowa sincere condolence in their bereavement.

Resolved, That, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, the business of the Senate be now suspended to enable his associates to pay fitting tribute to his high character and distinguished services.

Resolved, That the Secretary transmit to the family of the deceased and to the governor of the State of Iowa a copy of these resolutions, with the action of the Senate thereon.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives.

Resolved, That, as an additional mark of respect, at the conclusion of these exercises the Senate do adjourn.

MEMORIAL ADDRESSES.

JANUARY 26, 1901.

Mr. HEPBURN. Mr. Speaker, I call up the special order, and offer the following resolutions.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Iowa calls up the special order, which the Clerk will report.

The Clerk read as follows:

On motion of Mr. Hepburn, by unanimous consent, it was ordered that Saturday, January 26, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, be set aside to pay tributes of respect to the late Senator JOHN H. GEAR, from the State of Iowa.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman offers the following resolutions.

The Clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the House of Representatives hears the announcement of the death of Hon. JOHN HENRY GEAR, late a Senator from the State of Iowa.

Resolved, That the House extends to his family and to the people of the State of Iowa sincere condolence in their bereavement.

Resolved, That, as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, the business of the House be now suspended to enable his associates to pay fitting tribute to his high character and distinguished services.

Resolved, That the Clerk transmit to the family of the deceased and to the governor of the State of Iowa a copy of these resolutions with the action of the House thereon.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

Resolved, That, as an additional mark of respect, at the conclusion of these exercises, the House do adjourn.

The SPEAKER. The question is on agreeing to the resolutions.

Address of Mr. Hedge, of Iowa.

Mr. Speaker: As only the colleagues and companions of John Henry Gear can properly and justly measure his service and fix his place in the House of Representatives, I shall, in my few words, venture only to mark some of his qualities as a private citizen, as a neighbor, and a friend; to bear witness to that attachment for his person, that confidence in his high purpose and in his mental and moral power with which his people of the First district of Iowa followed him to the end.

I do not know where to look for a truer type of the American. His birth, his breeding, and his own experience joined to build him up into nothing less. His Puritan ancestors dwelt in Old England, and then for five generations in New England—a vigorous, god-fearing, law-abiding line. His father, an Episcopal clergyman, had been sent by his church as a missionary to the Indians, and was dwelling among the remnants of the Five Nations, where now is Ithaca, when, April 7, 1825, John Henry Gear was born. His mother dying when he was 2 years old, he was taken to his grandmother at Pittsfield, Mass., and it was not until he was 11 years old that he became a conscious pioneer.

With his father the toilsome journey to the West was made in 1836. They sojourned first at Galena, then at Fort Snelling, on the western frontier of inhabited America; on the border line between the clearing of the white man and the hunting ground of the red man, and here the boy got all his preparatory schooling from what books his father could force upon him indoors and what he could lay hold of out of doors in the craft of his Indian familiar or soldier comrade.

At 18 he was ready for independent life, and sailed down the Mississippi River to Burlington, Iowa Territory, to begin that life. He was readier than he knew; admirably and exactly fitted and equipped for the career that awaited him, without burdens or impediments. He brought to Burlington a sound body, a straight physical and mental vision, a steady nerve, a stout heart, a good conscience, a tireless energy, an instinctive belief in the good will and fair purpose of his fellow-men.

In Burlington he found the United States of America in its original elements, a gathering in miniature of the principal forces which were to perfect and strengthen the American Union.

I mean that by some strange providence had been brought there in the flower of youth representatives of all that was best of the original States—three of New England, New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia—the force and virtue of Yankee and Knickerbocker, of Quaker, of Presbyterian and Catholic, of Puritan and Cavalier. They had come thither with the provincialisms, traditions, the prejudices, the ways of life, with all the peculiarities that characterized and separated their respective places of nativity; but in that wilderness these marks of character served only to distinguish and not to divide them. They rather drew them together, quickened mutual interest, and became the elements and forces of that reciprocal training which soon developed them all into Americans, lovers of a common country.

They were a sequestered colony whose communication with their old homes was infrequent and precarious. The Mississippi River was their only highway to the outer world. The rail fence that marked the western border of the white man's conquest was hardly one day's wagon journey from the river. Thence westward stretched in idle beauty the prairie and desert,

an infinite silence, an illimitable solitude. For 2,000 miles not a furrow was turned, nor was ever heard the sound of the hammer in building temple or human dwelling. To these colonists every newcomer was an object of interest and of scrutiny. They had learned quickly to measure strength and to discern quality. At once and for good this simple stalwart from the Falls of St. Anthony, this gentle embodiment of strength, this visible good will, took possession of their hearts and found himself at home.

In those days there was but one social order among them; they had found no time to classify themselves, except between the useful and the useless. They were earning their living, establishing their homes, laying the durable foundations of a Commonwealth.

John Henry Gear set at once to do what his hands found to do; first as farm hand, then as clerk in a country store at $50 per year and board, then in the employ of the leading merchant of the town, William N. Coolbaugh, who was afterwards a noted banker and financier in Chicago, who soon took him into partnership in the establishment of which he afterwards became the head, and which chiefly occupied his energies until his entry into political office in 1871.

There is no time or need to count the steps of his progress. It was steady and it was always straight.

I shall not say that he was ever "too good for human nature's daily food." He was ever human enough to gain and to hold the affection of any true man, and ever good enough to win the confidence of any child.

He had "learned to labor and to wait;" was faithful to "the common round, the daily task." He was sane-minded. He saw no ghosts or phantasms. His feet were planted on the solid ground. He believed in the wisdom of the ages, and

held to the arithmetic, the copy book, the Ten Commandments, and the Sermon on the Mount.

He was persuaded that every man had been sent into the world to serve the world, and, so believing, his every day was marked not only by usefulness, but by its own beneficence.

His human kindness embraced all those who needed kindness—not only the worthy and deserving, but that class most in need, the unworthy and unthankful.

Of the large hospitality of his delightful home I have not room to speak.

A model neighbor and citizen, he became a successful merchant, a promoter of commerce, a builder of highways, a man of affairs, the efficient helper in every enterprise which promised to hasten the progress or to enlarge the prosperity of his town and State.

I doubt if his own political preferment had ever been a subject of serious thought to him during all the years of his private life.

At the age of 46 he consented to be the candidate of his party for the legislature.

He was elected, and in his service manifested such aptitude for public business that on his reelection he was made speaker of the house, and succeeded himself as speaker on his third election. Then the people of Iowa desired him for their governor, and he became a famous governor, using those methods which had made his private business so successful in administering its laws, superintending its institutions, directing its affairs, and promoting its advantage. His faithfulness in few and lesser things had fitted him to be ruler over many things.

I shall not follow further the story of his political life. As new duties came, he seemed endowed with new power to fulfill them, going from "strength to strength." In all his

advancement there was no change of character or loss of identity. He remained as faithful as the hills.

His life was full of labor, of happiness, and of honor, and it is perhaps his highest honor that at its end his people love and reverence his memory as that of their old familiar friend.

Address of Mr. Lanham, of Texas.

Mr. Speaker: It is with somewhat peculiar emotions that I join in the proceedings of this hour. I recall the changes that have occurred in the personnel of the delegations from Iowa and my own State since you and I, Mr. Speaker, first became members of Congress. Of your delegation only you and your worthy colleague, Mr. Hepburn, are here. Of mine I alone remain. Some of them are living and engaged in other pursuits; some of them have passed away. It is apparent to us, as it must be to others, that we have traveled over the greater part of life's journey and must ere long follow those who have preceded us to the silent land. This retrospect and this prospect it may profit us to consider.

Mr. Speaker, obituary service is usual with us upon the death of one of our associates in Congress. It is meet that we should say something of the dead, and suitably commemorate the virtues of the departed. Such service and such commemoration should be both solemn and sincere. Extravagant encomium should be avoided, and only just tributes should be offered. While it is right and of long observance to "speak well of the dead," it is not incumbent upon any eulogist to go beyond a faithful portrayal of the life and character of one deceased as they may have been known and understood by him. Indeed, such portrayal is always the more meritorious when it is strictly candid and accurate, and, as such, must be all the more appreciated by surviving friends and relatives. I shall be guided by these considerations in my brief and imperfect contribution to this serious occasion, and say nothing that I do not believe to be entirely true.

I became acquainted with Senator GEAR in the Fiftieth Congress, when he was first a member of the House, and was at once interested in him. Bringing with him as he did a conspicuous record of former prominent public service in his State, a large experience in political and business affairs, and entering Congress somewhat late in life, I felt more than usually inclined to observe and study him, to learn and know him. He made a strong and unusual impression upon me. He was strikingly natural and singularly free from any sort of affectation. There was naught of veneer about him. He was notably plain and practical and straightforward. There was nothing in his dress, his mannerism, his form of speech, or his general conduct that did not attest his simplicity and sincerity. His mien and modus convinced any careful observer that he was an earnest, solid man, and one who could be thoroughly trusted in important concerns. His walk and conversation invited confidence and gave assurance that he was above dissimulation. No man ever felt "ill at ease" in his presence.

I think he was one of the most artless public men I ever knew. I never heard him speak a word or do a thing which seemed to be spoken or done for the mere sake of form. I once heard a compliment bestowed upon a worthy man, and which, though expressed in homely phrase, carried with it a wealth of commendation that no polished diction could surpass. It was this: "He was a good, square, everyday man." I would underscore these words and intensify their significance in submitting my estimate of Senator GEAR. He was the same good man each succeeding day of his life, with uniform upright bearing and generous demeanor. I believe that his humblest constituent would have been as kindly received and considerately treated by him amid his distintinguished surroundings at the Federal capital as at his own home in Iowa.

These traits of character and these modes of conduct are unfailing testimonials of real greatness and exalted worth.

The fidelity and efficiency with which he filled every engagement, the acceptability of his varied service to his people, their repeated indorsements of his course, and the eminent success he achieved all combined to proclaim him no ordinary man. He was equal to every demand upon him and faithful to every trust reposed in him.

He was possessed of a deep and comprehensive intellect, a ready discernment, and strong practical judgment. When he chose to express an opinion, it was direct and convincing—not ornate, perhaps, but sound and logical. He seemed disinclined to participate in public discussions, unless when manifestly impelled by a sense of duty and with a view to some substantial contribution to the subject under consideration. I think he had no patience with mere pro forma or useless utterance, and was quick to detect the animus that prompted it in others. He did not "stale his presence by custom" in unnecessary or irrelevant debate. When he did speak, it was with and to and for a purpose. Let us never underrate the quiet, thoughtful, silent man; for he has about him a reserve force all the more potential because not constantly exposed, and of him it may frequently be affirmed "Cum tacet, clamat."

A few words from such a man are oftentimes more influential than the habitual iterations of those given to much speaking. I think it is natural that as men grow older they become more conservative, more considerate of their speech, and feel a greater sense of responsibility for the dignity and weight and effect of what they may say, and at the same time less disposed to volunteer their views and suggestions, except when suitable results are in demand and duty calls for an assertion of their judgment. It was doubtless so with

Senator GEAR. He had passed the impetuosity of youth and was impervious to the solicitations of sensationalism and ephemeral notice when he entered Congress. His ambition was to be useful; his desire to be right, not visionary nor meteoric.

I was one of the Congressional committee to attend his funeral. I never witnessed a similar occasion where there was such a large attendance of what we know as "country people," and I never saw stronger evidences of love and respect for the dead than they exhibited. Plain old men and women, who had doubtless known him for many years and been the beneficiaries of his attention and kindness, passed by and viewed his remains, and wept as they gave the last look at the face of their dear old friend. Their grief was general, and to me particularly apparent and touching. Their expressions of sorrow showed that they were real mourners over his death. In their tributes I thought I discovered that devotion of kind hearts which is "more than coronets" and the true index of the remarkable popularity and distinguished career of our lamented friend, and that was that he was true to and beloved by the plain people of his community and State. While he challenged the admiration and esteem of all who knew him, they especially trusted him, and he did not forsake them. In this was his great strength, and in their affectionate, abiding, and grateful memory is to be found his best ultimate public reward. Greater recompense in this world can no man receive. He died full of years and honors. His long and useful life is ended. His noble career is finished. He hath left enduring "footprints on the sands of time," which those who come after him shall see and "take heart." In the last "sleep upon which he has fallen," and which must finally come to us all, may his rest be undisturbed.

Address of Mr. Lacey, of Iowa.

Mr. Speaker: Iowa is still a young State, and her great growth has been made within the recollection of men now living, and who can not yet be called very old. She has had sons and daughters, by birth and by adoption, whom she has loved and delighted to honor, and whose names have become household words throughout the land; but the best loved of all her sons was the man whose life and death we commemorate to-day.

Death is always a sorrowful event; but when it comes as it came to Senator Gear, after he had passed six years beyond the allotted limit of human life, after he had reached the pinnacle of his ambition, death seems a coronation rather than an end.

John Henry Gear has long been known to the people of Iowa. Nor was his fame limited by the boundaries of his State. His public life was long and eventful, though he was past middle life before he really entered on his career. He filled, with honor to himself and to his constituency, many responsible positions. His advancement was steady and persistent. He began at the bottom of the ladder and step by step made his way to the top, never losing his balance, not once forgetting his friends. As alderman, mayor, member of the legislature, speaker of the Iowa house, governor of his State, Representative in Congress, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and finally United States Senator, he was always the same approachable, genial, courteous, painstaking public servant. He filled all of these various positions well; he worked consistently in them all, demonstrating his fitness to go higher.

The people of Iowa showed their appreciation of his good works by electing him to a second term in the United States Senate, a term of service which would begin after he had passed his seventy-sixth year.

States and districts usually select to represent them the kind of a man that will best exemplify the character and habits of those who chose him. Iowa honored herself in selecting such a man, for the world judges the State by those it advances to high office. Commencing his life in penury, adversity only stimulated him to greater efforts.

Above all else, he honored and loved the State which was his home. I have known Mr. GEAR for many years, and I have often heard him say that he liked best of all the title "Governor"—that which most intimately connected his name with the name of his State. He said:

> When they call me "Senator," the idea is associated with the United States; when they call me "Governor," it means Iowa, and I like it.

When he was a member of the House his district and the one which I represent joined each other, and our relations in public affairs were very close. We were accustomed to hold joint meetings along the borders of the two districts in each campaign, and it was always a delight to me to see and hear the earnest welcome and applause he received from his constituents. His political opponents admired and respected him as much as his friends did, and the inquiry always was on the eve of an election, "How much will the Governor run ahead of his ticket?" for it was a matter of course that he would outstrip all others, his geniality and kindness of heart so endeared him to the people.

Nicknames do not attach to persons unless they seem to fit. Napoleon was called the "Little Corporal" by his friends; Jackson was "Old Hickory;" GEAR was "Old Business." In

one Congress our seats were side by side, and I learned to know him as I had not before. I was especially struck with his plain, practical good judgment. He was the genius of common sense.

He never studied law, but in his long public service as well as in business life he had that training which made him a good judge of law. I often submitted involved legal propositions to him to find out how they would strike the mind of a layman. It was remarkable how correctly he would answer, giving his reasons with force and clearness. It was a good illustration of the fact that the law is, in its last analysis, founded on pure reason.

Senator GEAR was a great worker, and by the untiring nature of his efforts overcame in a great measure the disadvantages of an inadequate scholastic education. Down to the very last days of his life in Washington he was seen going the weary round of the Departments, neither neglecting nor forgetting any call of his people upon him. He did nothing for display. His success in life was the crowning reward of hard work.

In a long career like that of Senator GEAR his public life was connected with many important affairs, so that it is difficult to select the particular events in which his influence was most effectually felt. He has left a monument in the records of his State and nation. In Iowa he first suggested the idea of a board of control for the State institutions; and his plan was, in a subsequent administration, enacted into law. The work of tariff revision, which he helped to frame in 1890, he saw condemned, untried by the people, but he lived not only to be returned to Congress upon the same issue, but to see his course upon this question indorsed by national popular approval. The successful settlement of the claims of the Government against

the Pacific railways was the crowning act of his public life, and was the last great measure placed in his charge.

He was a doer of things and not a sayer of them, yet as a public speaker he accomplished what many professional orators fail in; he convinced his hearers. His speeches were of the vote-getting kind, for he always made his position both plain and plausible.

No man was more free from prejudice and envy than he. He was not given to saying hard things of his political opponents, and he aspired to merit and win the good will of all with whom he was associated. That his friendship was sometimes abused did not cause him to lose faith in human nature. He did not fail to trust one friend because another had proved false.

In politics he was a regular, recognizing the necessity of united effort in accomplishing political results. He yielded his judgment in matters of detail when it was necessary to present a united front to the opposition, but gave way in nothing where principle was involved. In both the House and the Senate he enjoyed the most hearty respect of the opposition as well as the warm regard of his political friends.

In domestic life he was as fortunate as in his relations with public affairs. As a father and husband he gave us the best example of American manhood. In his marriage relations the twain were indeed one. Those who knew Senator GEAR best always associated him in their thoughts with the loving helpmate of his long and busy life, who aided him in all his plans and encouraged him in all his struggles.

JOHN HENRY GEAR has gone, but "his works live after him." By no other standard would he be judged. He sought not fulsome praise in life, and needs no flattering encomium in death. His loving heart sought only love, and this a grateful

State and nation gave him in full meed. Measured by this standard of what he did, he stands forth a typical and great American.

> Glory of warrior, glory of orator, glory of song,
> Paid with a voice flying out to be lost on an endless sea;
> Glory of virtue to fight, to struggle, to right the wrong;
> Nay, but she cares not for glory; no lover of glory is she;
> Give her the glory of going on, and yet to be.

This is the glory of the long life of JOHN H. GEAR. His work is done, but in the results of that long life his work goes on and yet shall be.

Address of Mr. Grosvener, of Ohio.

Mr. Speaker: Members of Congress from the district or State from which a member comes have an opportunity to know more of the varied characteristics of a colleague than does a member from another State. He comes with the traditions and recollections of his association with his home State; the campaigns, the contests, the struggles of political parties, and the associations and friendships which have begun and grown and blossomed in the State being brought here; and so it is that members of Congress from the State of Iowa can better speak of all the details of the character of Senator Gear than can a member of the House who knew him only in the official relations of the business of the House.

I came to Congress in the Forty-ninth Congress and Mr. Gear came in the Fiftieth Congress. His progress in the House was very rapid. He became a member of the Committee on Ways and Means in the Fifty-first Congress—in his second term. I speak only from casual recollection, for I have no knowledge now, but I do not recollect the name of any one who reached that committee so early in his career in the House. He was a member of it at the time that the great contest over the tariff bill was the dominating question here. He must have been recognized early as a man of capacity in that line. I remember that he had charge on the floor of the House and elsewhere of the interests of the agricultural departments; and I remember with what detail he discussed every question during the long ten or twelve days that the House was in Committee of the Whole upon that bill. I knew him here in the House. I came to know him simply by the discovery which I

made, that he never undertook to explain a matter that he did not thoroughly understand. Accuracy of detail, accuracy of knowledge, was his strong point.

It has been said of him, not only here but in the Senate, that he was not an orator; but he had the power of statement. He had that power which so rapidly communicates the thought of the speaker to the auditor. He had the power to make you understand the argument that he was submitting, and his speeches were always arguments. I never heard him make a speech—I never heard him using a single word or sentence—that he ever intended using anywhere else than here. He addressed the judgment, the sense, and the understanding of the House of Representatives, and apparently had no thought of the effect of his address outside. He was here always. He was one of the most faithful attendants, and I attribute his success and growth in the House in large part to his constant attendance on the sessions of the House. If I were to rise here in my place to deliver a lecture on the subject of the best road to preferment in the House of Representatives, I should say that that was the road traveled by JOHN HENRY GEAR—the road that finds a member listening to the prayer of the Chaplain and hears the echo of the gavel of the Speaker when he announces the adjournment of the House.

It was my observation that there was no question in the line of business here that he undertook to know anything about that he did not keep fully in touch with.

He was a strong party man. After I became acquainted with him I had a great deal of conversation with him upon the subject of party organization and party politics. While he very fully appreciated the patriotism and judgment of political opponents, he had a much higher and more exalted opinion of the views and judgment of the men of the party to which he

belonged. He was not ashamed to say that he was a member of his political party and that he believed that party was always right, substantially, and that the other party was largely inclined to be wrong. He challenged the good opinion of the Democratic party in that way and always had it.

I was in Iowa once when a great gathering of the people at Burlington was going on. Governor GEAR met the party outside of the State and went with us to the city of Burlington and then westward, and I noticed that in the vast throng that crowded around the cars and that came upon the platform where speeches were going on he knew by name nearly everybody there. He may have missed the name of somebody, but I saw no one that he did not apparently call by some name, and usually it appeared to me that he had got the right name on the right person. He seemed to have that great faculty of knowing everybody, and everybody seemed to have the appearance of being very fond of him.

Very few men in this country have grown to the distinction that he did who did not enter public life at an earlier period. From the start he made in his own State, when he was past middle age, until the time of his death, when he had reached old age, he made a steady and rapid progress forward. There could be no better testimonial of his standing and hold upon the people of Iowa than that under all the circumstances he received the election which he did to the term which he never entered upon under all the conditions that surrounded him. He will always be pointed out by the men in this House and the men of the present Senate and the men who knew him in public life in Washington not so much for the characteristics which his comrades can detail as he will be for one of those sturdy characters—honest, upright, persistent—who was always at the post of duty and always willing to share the burdens and labors that fell to his colleagues.

Address of Mr. Dalzell, of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker: I think it may safely be asserted that a lengthy experience in public life finds most men at its close with many acquaintances, but with only a limited number whom they regard with feelings of warm friendship. "Governor" Gear, as I was always in the habit of calling him, was one of the men who, so far as I am concerned, is to be classed in the latter category.

Entering the House of Representatives at the same time—in the Fiftieth Congress—we were more or less intimate during the remainder of his life, and the news of his death came to me with a sense of personal loss. I had noticed with regret for some time his failing health and the characteristic courage and persistence with which, notwithstanding, he attended assiduously to every duty. Cut off suddenly in the midst of his public services, he may be said literally to have died as he would have wished to die—"in the harness."

His colleagues from the State of Iowa have given to us the details of his long and useful life, and it is no part of my purpose to repeat them. They furnish us the key to his character and the explanation of his success. Nothing is surer than that we are all of us more or less the product of our environment and that the existence of certain traits are to be accounted for by reference thereto. Governor Gear came of a race of pioneers, of whom he was himself a worthy successor.

His missionary father found a congenial sphere of usefulness among the Indians and in the primeval forests of our earlier history. He carried the gospel and the lessons of civilization first to the red men of the East and later on to those of our

Western wilds, not counting the rigors of climate, the harsh conditions of semisavage life, and the absence of comforts as in comparison with the great work to which his life had been dedicated.

His steadfastness of purpose, his perseverance, his lofty conception of duty and his loyalty thereto, were the rich inheritance that he bequeathed to his son. To the talent to which he succeeded, the son, like the faithful servant of old, added yet other talents, which contributed much to the welfare of his fellow-men. Governor GEAR'S characteristics were those of the pioneer. He was a plain man and unassuming, and yet possessed the aggressiveness needed to make his career a success. Commencing life apparently without any desire for power or place, he exhibited the qualities which attracted others to him and designated him as a fit counselor in their interests.

In whatever sphere he found himself he modestly and faithfully pursued each day its duty, and each day made progress. A farm hand, a store clerk, a trusted servant, a modest storekeeper, he finally became a prosperous merchant and a marked man in his community. Not seeking office, office sought him. From time to time the sphere of his usefulness broadened. He became an alderman of his ward, then mayor of his city, then assemblyman, then governor of Iowa, then a Representative in Congress, and at last one of the Senators of his State.

Governor GEAR was a brave man. As new responsibilities came he assumed them, knowing that with burdens taken up would come self-reliance. In the performance of his various duties he acquired a wealth of knowledge, practical in its character, which a wonderful memory made serviceable to mankind. He became thus a resourceful man. I have never known another who seemed to know more things worth

knowing by a legislator and who knew them with more accuracy of detail than did Governor GEAR.

He was a member of the Ways and Means Committee in the Fifty-first Congress, and no man on that committee was more useful in the framing of legislation. It is safe to say that his was a large part in the framing of the McKinley law. Notwithstanding the fact that his business career was at that time a thing of the long past, there still remained his accurate and varied knowledge of prices, tariff rates, markets, and all the details necessary to the making of a tariff bill. He was for that reason one of the most efficient members of that great committee.

He was as diligent as he was wise. He gave to the duties of his committee continuous, unremitting attention. He was useful on the floor as well as in committee. While not what the public might term an orator, he was a forcible speaker, clear, concise, and persuasive in the presentation of his views. It may be that in his long service in House and Senate his name is not particularly connected with any great measure, nevertheless there were few such measures to which he did not give thought, consideration, and loyal service.

His was a pleasing personality, possessing the qualities which made and retained friends. He was even-tempered, well-balanced, warm-hearted. He was an amiable man. No one could continuously have filled the places of honor and trust that he filled covering so long a period of time without having had an army of warm and loyal friends. That he retained these is the most conclusive proof that he was deserving of them. Like Abou Ben Adhem, he loved his fellow-men.

But it is not because Governor GEAR was a faithful and distinguished public servant that I bring this my humble tribute to him to-day. It is rather because he was my friend, and

because I esteemed and admired him as such, and because his death has made the number of my friends one less. I can not think that there is anything to be bemoaned in his departure. It was not untimely. Full of years and of honors, he leaves the priceless heritage of an unsullied name and the record of a useful life well spent in the service of his kind.

He had so lived—

> That when his summons came to join
> The innumerable caravan, which moves
> To that mysterious realm, where each shall take
> His chamber in the silent halls of death,
> He went not, like the quarry-slave at night,
> Scourged to his dungeon, but sustained and soothed
> By an unfaltering trust, * * *
> He wrapped the drapery of his couch
> About him, and lay down to pleasant dreams.

Address of Mr. Richardson, of Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker: I regret that I did not have notice earlier that I might have had time to prepare with some care remarks appropriate to this occasion. It was only a few moments ago that I determined to say a word by way of eulogy of Senator Gear. I remember, Mr. Speaker, very well when Senator Gear became a member of this House in the Fiftieth Congress, the session after I became a member. I was not thrown intimately in connection with him during his legislative career, but I came to know him very well. Senator Gear came into national politics as a member of Congress late in life.

My experience has been, sir, that it is rather unusual for a man to enter this House so old as was Senator Gear when he came here and make so perfect a success as a legislator as is true of that gentleman. He was past 60 years of age when he entered Congress. As remarked by the gentleman from Ohio who preceded me, he at a very early date became a member of the greatest legislative committee of the House of Representatives—the most important of any of its committees. We who were members at that time will all bear witness to his faithfulness and his capacity as a member of that important committee in the Fifty-first Congress.

I am reluctant to refer to myself on any occasion of this kind, but I remember very well his participation in the debate when the tariff question was being debated in the Fifty-third Congress. Gentlemen have spoken of the tenderness and loving nature and disposition of Governor Gear. This was clearly shown in the Fifty-third Congress. I am sure no gentleman was better entitled to be held in the deep affection that

seemed to cluster around him. It was illustrated in the case to which I am about to refer by a gentleman who was a candidate against him for the Senatorship in Iowa. That gentleman was then and is now a member of this House and is now doing me the honor to listen to what I am saying.

I remember very well when, as the result of the contest there for the Senate, Senator GEAR was successful, of having a conversation with this gentleman, his colleague, who was then aspiring to the exalted station which Governor GEAR had won. He said he had a first-rate chance to win the fight, indeed he believed he would win until Governor GEAR became a candidate and entered the field actively. He said: "After the old man came into the race I knew I had no chance." He added that when it became known he wanted the Senatorship all opposition quickly vanished. He spoke of him in the most kindly and tender way, which satisfied me of the depth and strength of the affection which Governor GEAR must have had on the people of Iowa.

I have already hinted at and was about to mention an incident which occurred and came under my own observation when he returned to the House of Representatives as a Senator-elect. He had been away some time seeking the position. I mention this incident to show the feeling and the respect entertained for Governor GEAR, not only by his colleagues on the Republican side but by gentlemen on this side of the House at that time. After an absence of several weeks spent in conducting his campaign he returned. The tariff bill of the Fifty-third Congress was being discussed. I had the honor to be in the chair in Committee of the Whole when the Senator-elect came upon the floor and took his seat just in the rear of that side. He had been here only a few moments when some question on which he desired to speak

was presented. He rose and addressed the Chair for recognition, which was promptly accorded him.

Up to that moment his presence on the floor had not been noticed. I took the liberty, because of the warm friendship which I entertained for him, to recognize him, when he addressed the Chair, as "The Senator from Iowa," which at once called attention to his presence. The applause which broke out on that side of the House was not surpassed by that which followed upon this side, in recognition of his popularity and the high esteem in which he was held.

Mr. Speaker, I shall not occupy further time in speaking of this distinguished man. I regret that there are not more "Governor Gears" in the politics of this country. Iowa has sent many able, accomplished, and faithful legislators to this body and to the other branch of Congress; but in my judgment she has never sent any man better calculated to reflect honor upon a great Commonwealth, for faithfulness to duty, for ability, for integrity of character, and for sincerity in all his public acts, than JOHN H. GEAR.

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Address of Mr. Steele, of Indiana.

Mr. Speaker: I thank the gentleman from Iowa [Mr. Hepburn] for giving me an opportunity to say a word in appreciative memory of the friendship I enjoyed with John H. Gear.

Of the earlier boyhood days of Senator Gear none are left to speak from personal knowledge. We are informed that from 1831, when he was 6 years of age, ten years or more were spent at Fort Snelling, then on the remote frontier. There he was necessarily deprived of the advantages afforded by civilization. His father was dependent upon the meager salary of an army chaplain. At this remote outpost even the necessaries of life were secured at such cost that little was left either to husband for a rainy day or to provide for the education of his children.

It is not surprising, therefore, to those who knew Senator Gear to read that at the age of 17 he left his old home behind him and went into the world to make a new home for himself. By the exercise of the rugged qualities which characterized him to the last of life, he succeeded not only in this ambition, but, with a courageous spirit, a mind of native strength, and a reputation for honesty and sincerity which grew greater as he discharged the many public duties intrusted to him, he rose to a place of eminence in the councils of the nation.

I leave to others the history of his long and distinguished public career, and speak of him only as a friend. My acquaintance with him began in 1884, but not until 1887 did I know him well. We then became associated on the Committee on Military Affairs. This was during the Fiftieth Congress. Of the members of that committee at that time but two are

members of the present House, and of the membership of that House there are but twenty-one in the present.

Senator GEAR'S domestic life left nothing to be desired. He was devoted to his wife and children. Few men had more loyal and devoted friends than had he, and few men derived greater enjoyment from association with his friends. After the members of his immediate family, Iowans generally were naturally nearest his heart, and first of the first was, doubtless, his colleague, Senator Allison. Senator GEAR was a man of unusual ability, yet he was modest and unassuming, good of heart, honest, truthful, and loyal to his friends. He helped make the world better.

Address of Mr. Hull, of Iowa.

Mr. Speaker: For more than a quarter of a century it was my privilege to have in the person of John Henry Gear a friend. During that time I learned to love him. I first knew him intimately during his connection with the general assembly of Iowa in 1872. In common with the other citizens of Iowa, I recognized during the first few weeks of that session that a new and powerful and dominant factor had entered public life. I was associated with him then and in the succeeding session, when the two parties in Iowa were evenly balanced in the house, each having fifty members, his party selecting Representative Gear as their candidate for speaker.

I believe I am safe in saying that every citizen of Iowa recognized that there was no other man on the Republican side who could have broken what was known as our "legislative deadlock" and the universal feeling among all the members who had served with him in the preceding legislature that he was absolutely fair and entirely honest was the only thing that made it possible for him to be elected speaker of the Iowa house the first time. His course in the legislature during his three terms of service was of such a character that the people of Iowa without regard to party recognized him as an able and honest and industrious public servant.

When he came to be named for the higher office—the highest in the gift of his people, that of governor—he received the support of his party and of many who did not belong to his party at the time because of their belief in him as a man.

During his service as governor I was associated with him on the executive council, being secretary of state. In this way I

came to know him more intimately than I ever could have known him otherwise. And I take pride in saying that every act of his as executive of that great State was inspired by a desire to serve the best interests of his people, and that in every crisis coming to him during his administration he met the fullest expectation of the people of the entire State.

During this service, Mr. Speaker, I believe I found one of the secrets of his wonderful strength among the people. One element of his strength was his approachability. No divinity hedged him around, but every citizen could meet and talk with him and lay before him his grievance or his wants without any intermediary. Every child that met him upon the street received from him a kind word that made the child treasure the fact that he knew Governor GEAR.

An eminence upon which was situated the capitol of Iowa, with a long slope down to the river, was, in the winter days when GEAR was governor, the great coasting place for the young lads and lassies of Des Moines; and this man, who held the highest office in the State, would take pride as he went from the capitol in saying to them, "Let me have a ride with you," until every evening, as he left his office, there was a contest among the boys and girls of the capital city as to who should have the honor of taking the governor on the bobsled and coasting him down the long incline.

These things, Mr. Speaker, were done at the time simply from the kindness and goodness of his heart; but as the years passed on and when younger men were wanting to crowd him out of political position and take his place, on the ground that he was too old to serve the State, these boys with whom he played in their early days and had grown to manhood, these young fellows who had met Governor GEAR when he was governor of the State and when he was active in State politics,

rallied to his support and formed a solid phalanx and said to the people of the State of Iowa: "This man has performed such great, such honorable service that we all think it proper and right to renominate him and keep him in the Senate."

The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Grosvenor] in the course of his remarks upon the life and character of Senator GEAR has referred to his marvelous memory. When he was in active politics, Mr. Speaker, in Iowa, there was no man amongst all of our people who could meet men from every section of the State, in the convention or in the great political gatherings or the meetings of the legislature, and call as many men by name, locate them at their homes, speak of them as to their families and their family relations, to equal Senator GEAR or even approach him in that respect. His memory was something marvelous. He bore all of this great multitude of people not only in his brain, but in his great, generous heart.

JOHN H. GEAR, Mr. Speaker, was a type of a race of men who are rapidly disappearing in this country—the pioneers. Born of the sturdy stock that could conquer the wilderness and could overcome most of the difficulties of life, he helped to mold the policy of the great State, saw it rise to the highest honors of a State from a Territory, helped to make statehood possible to it, and aided as few other men did in the formation of the State in the early years of his political life. Mr. Speaker, men like him are rapidly passing away, leaving their descendants after them a very much better opportunity than they had, with more culture than was theirs, because of the hardships necessarily endured in those pioneer days; but no race of men of better fiber than those men of which Senator GEAR was a fitting type can be found in the annals of American history.

His loss will be mourned in Iowa while the generation now

living there shall rule. His memory will be borne in the affectionate hearts of the people he served so well. We will build him an enduring monument in our State, in the affections of our children, and we can say to his friends that they can take pride in the fact that they were related in any way to this splendid specimen of American manhood and American statesmanship.

Mr. Speaker, I only regret that I have not had an opportunity to more effectively pay my tribute of respect and affection to the memory of my friend, the late Senator JOHN HENRY GEAR, who was also the friend of all the people and of all the interests of the great State of Iowa, as he was the friend of the best interests of the people of the entire United States. He is gone. We mourn him, and can say in all truth,

> Go search the land of living men;
> Where shall we find his like again?

The SPEAKER. The question is on the adoption of the resolutions which have been presented.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The SPEAKER. It becomes the duty of the Chair now, in pursuance of the resolutions just adopted, to declare this House adjourned until 12 o'clock noon on Monday next.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 5 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned.

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